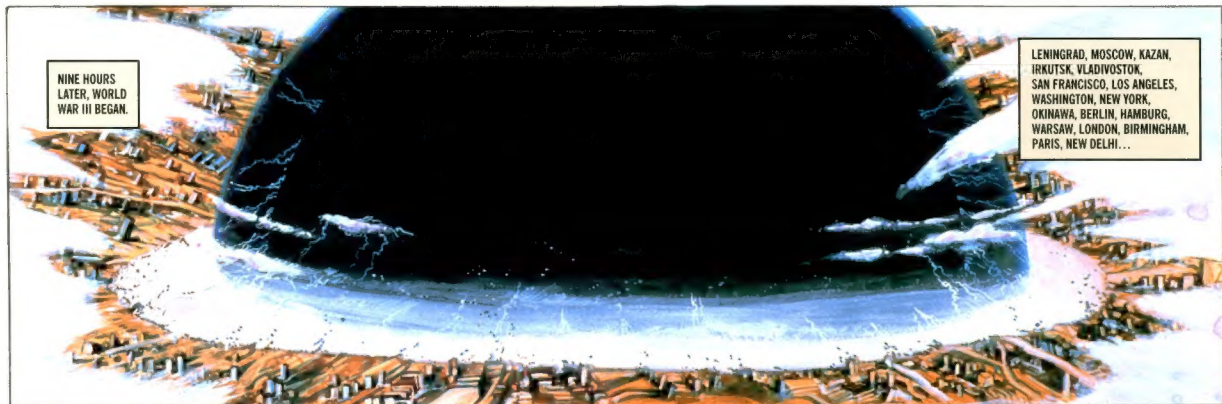
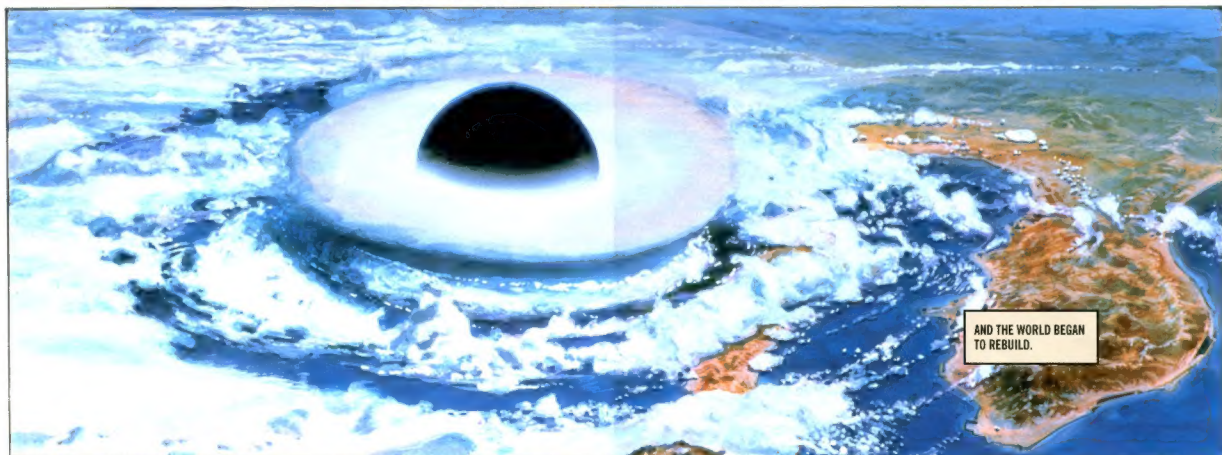


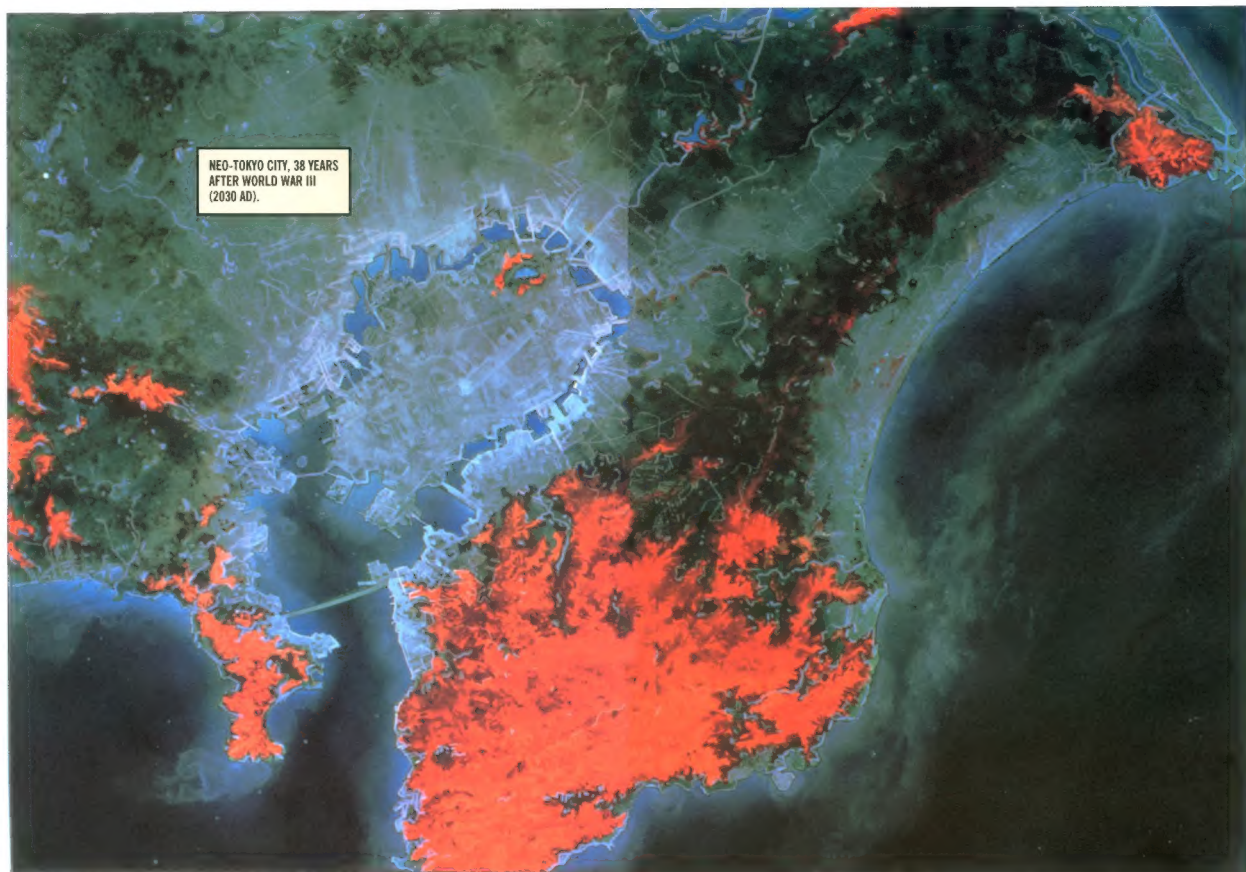


NINE HOURS
LATER, WORLD
WAR III BEGAN.

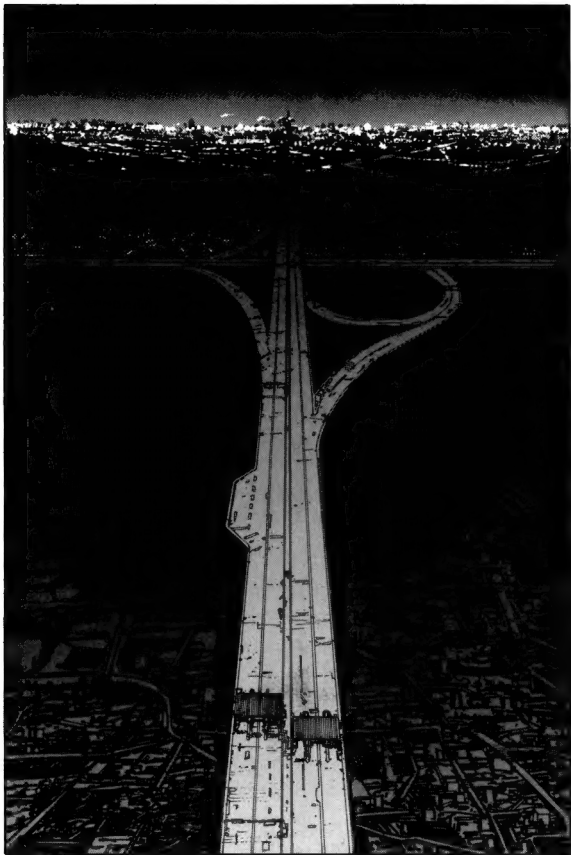
LENINGRAD, MOSCOW, KAZAN,
IRKUTSK, VLADIVOSTOK,
SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES,
WASHINGTON, NEW YORK,
OKINAWA, BERLIN, HAMBURG,
WARSAW, LONDON, BIRMINGHAM,
PARIS, NEW DELHI...

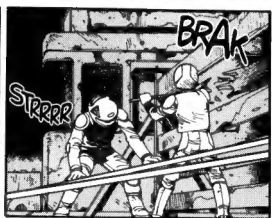
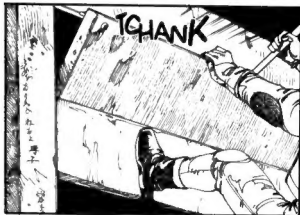
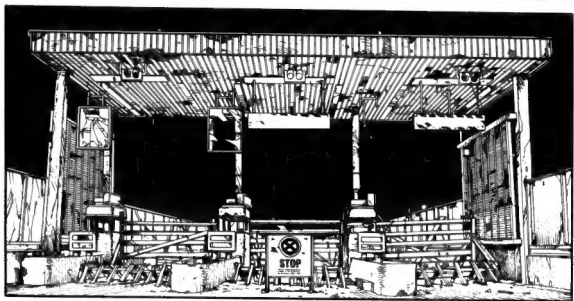
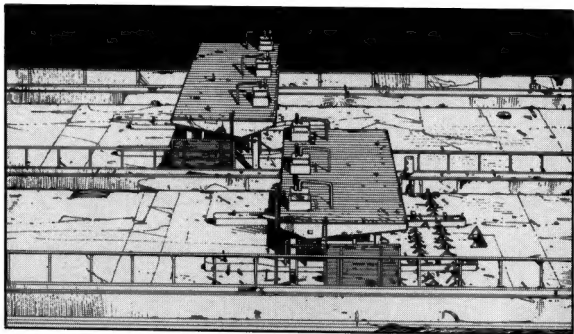


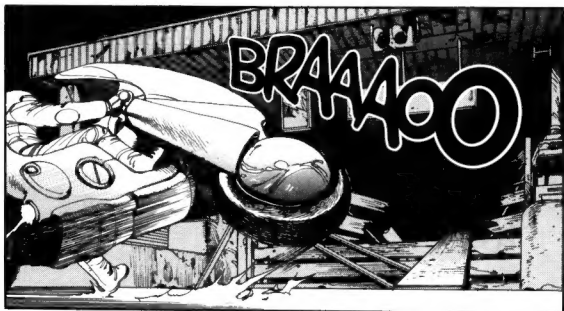
AND THE WORLD BEGAN
TO REBUILD.

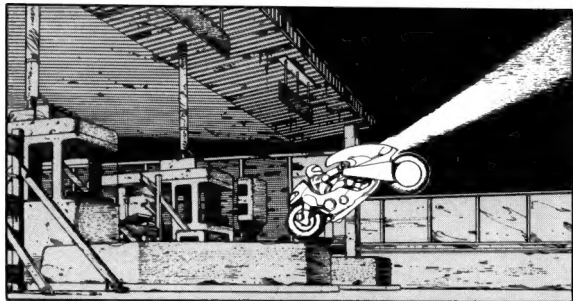


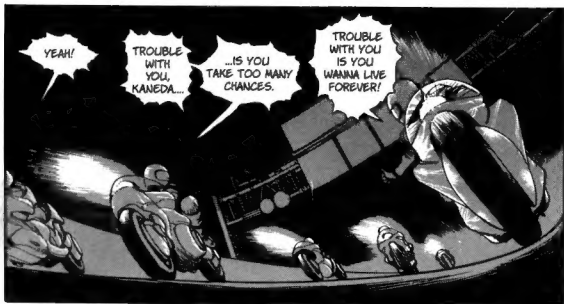
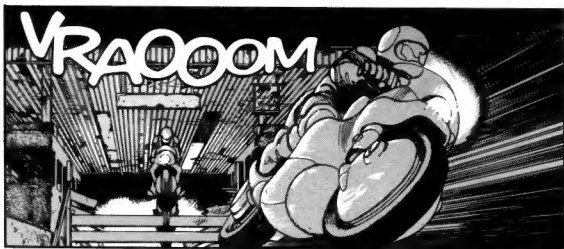
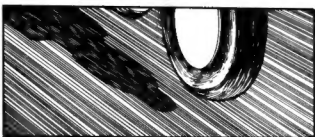


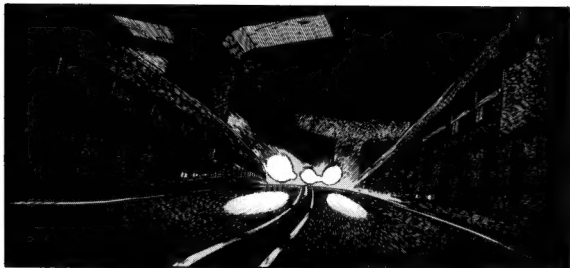




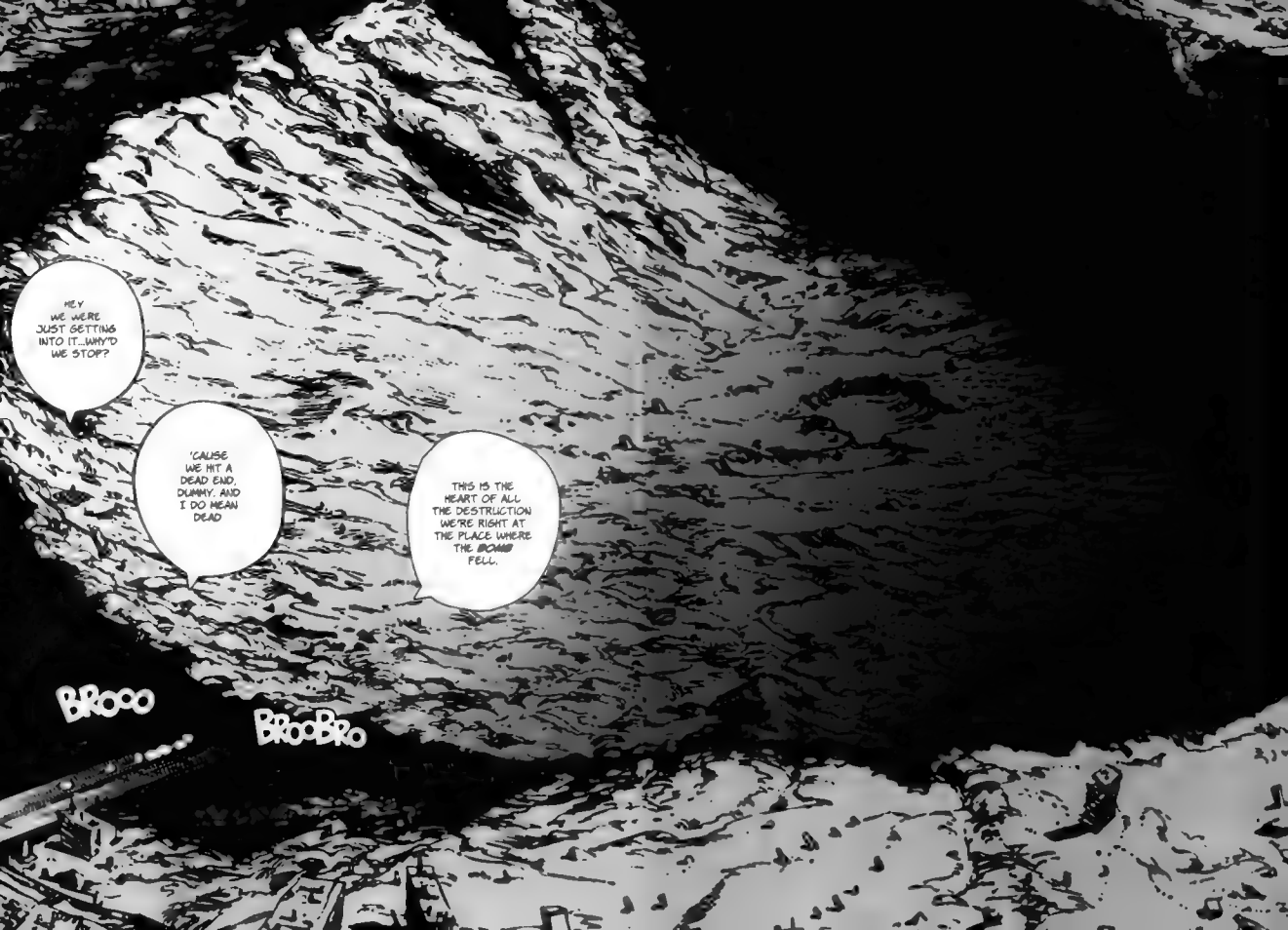












HEY
WE WERE
JUST GETTING
INTO IT...WHY'D
WE STOP?

'CAUSE
WE HIT A
DEAD END,
DUMMY. AND
I DO MEAN
DEAD

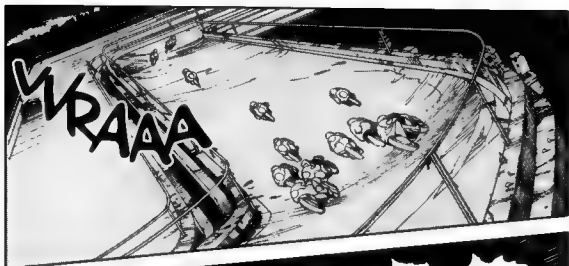
THIS IS THE
HEART OF ALL
THE DESTRUCTION
WE'RE RIGHT AT
THE PLACE WHERE
THE BROWNS
FELL.

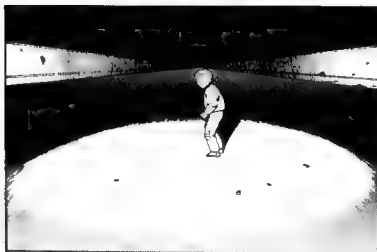
Brooo

BrooBro

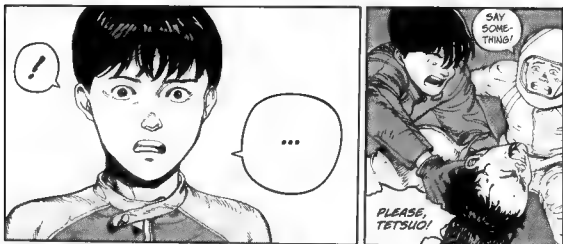


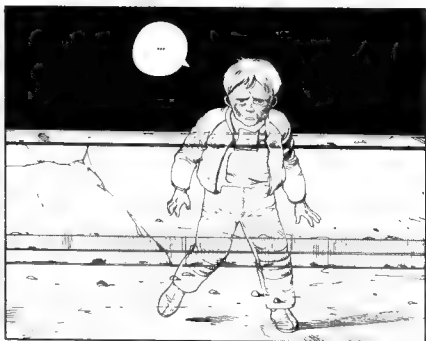




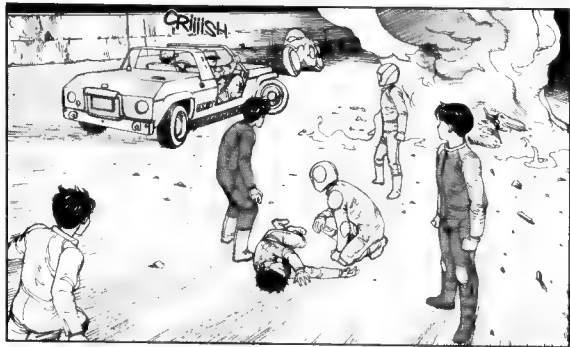


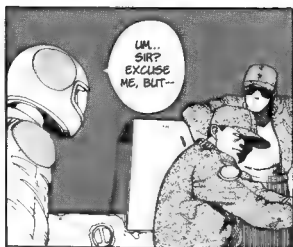


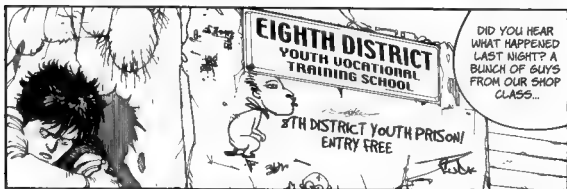
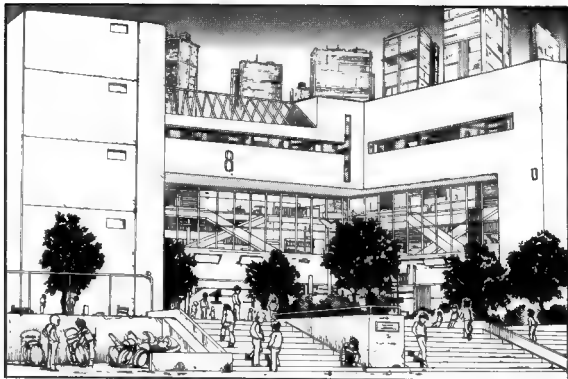


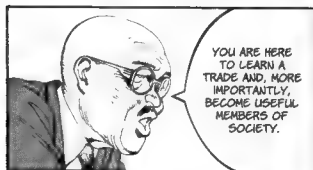
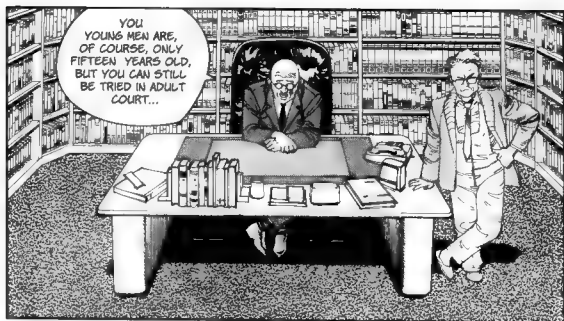


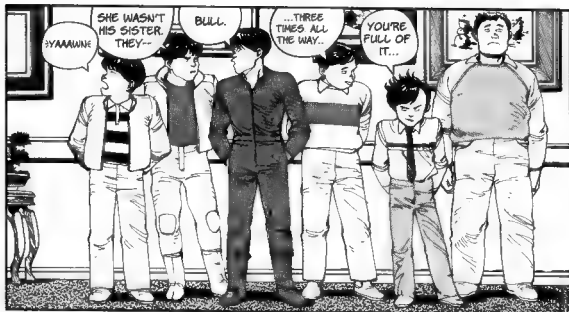


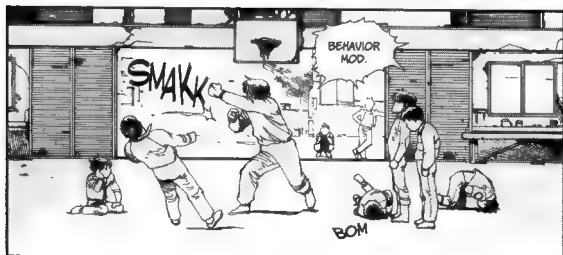
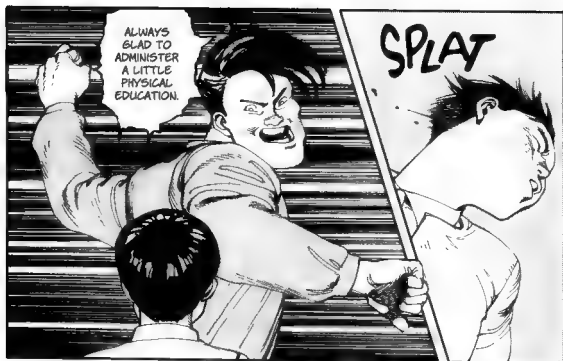


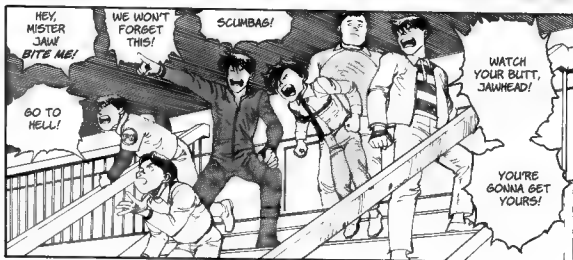


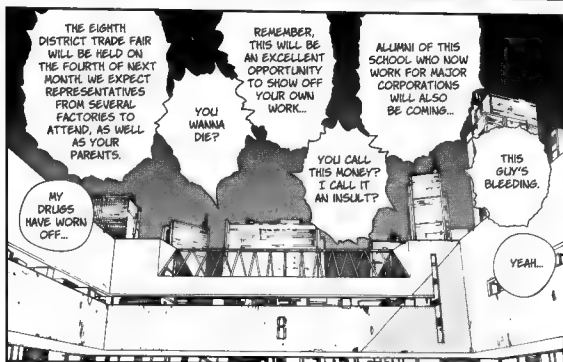


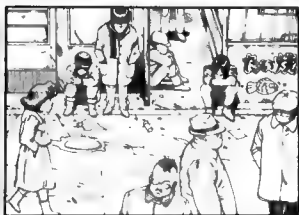
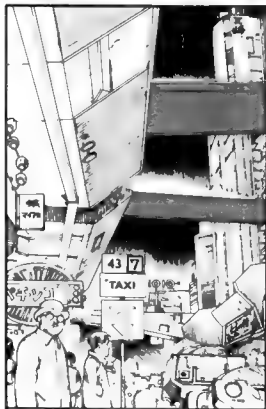
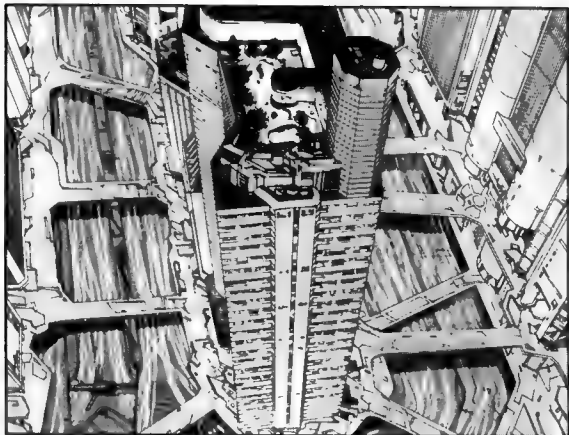
















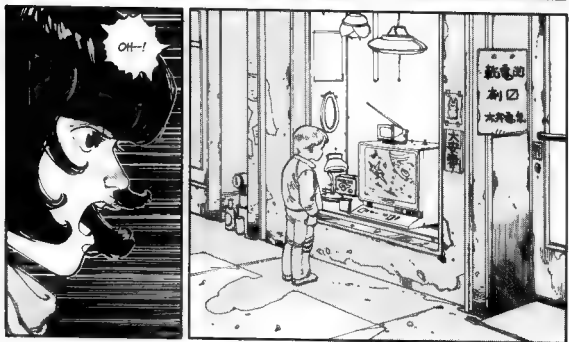
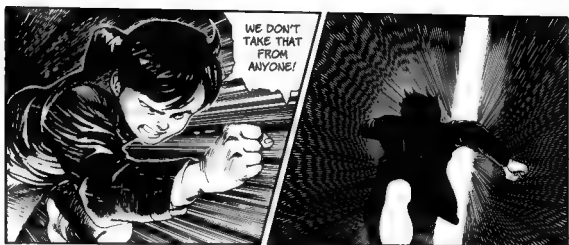


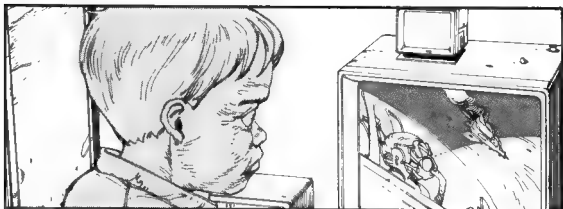






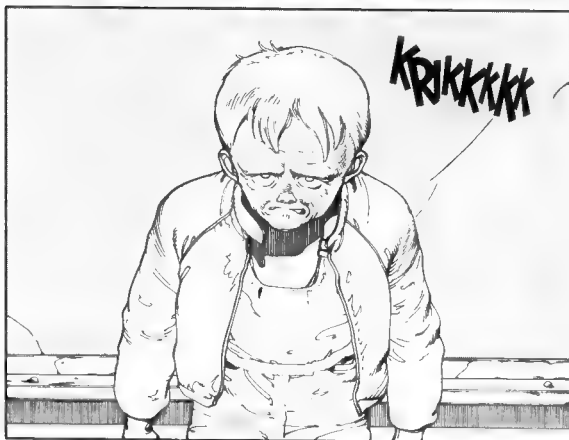






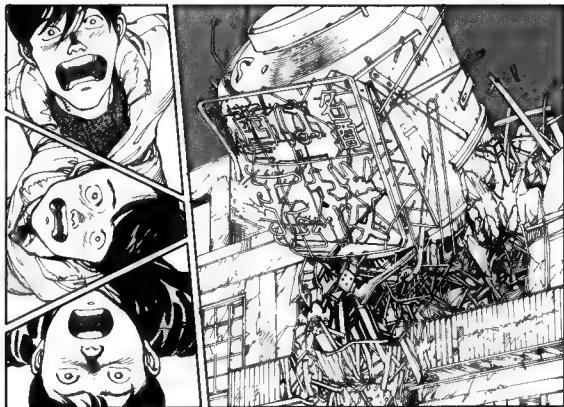














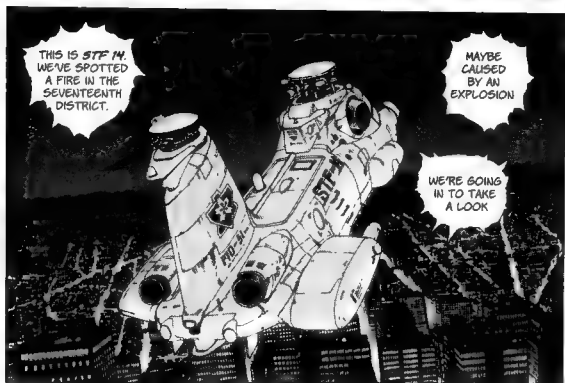


SMOKE
AT 9
O'CLOCK!



LOOKS LIKE
IT'S IN THE
SEVENTEENTH
DISTRICT!

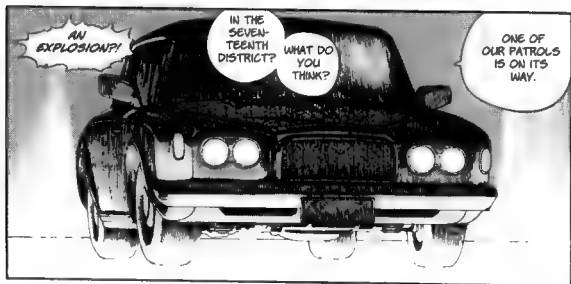
EMERGENCY!
EMERGENCY!

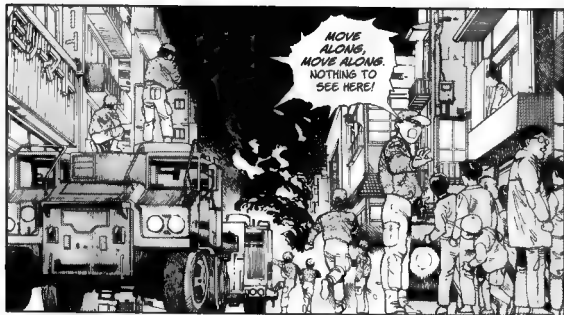


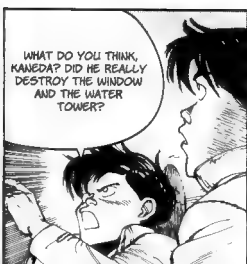
THIS IS STF 14.
WE'VE SPOTTED
A FIRE IN THE
SEVENTEENTH
DISTRICT.

MAYBE
CAUSED
BY AN
EXPLOSION

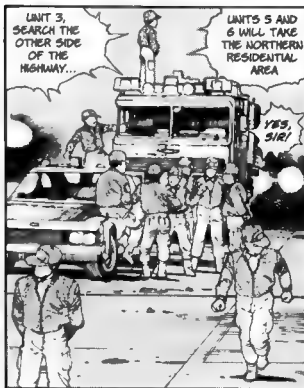
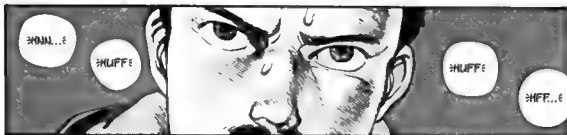
WE'RE GOING
IN TO TAKE
A LOOK







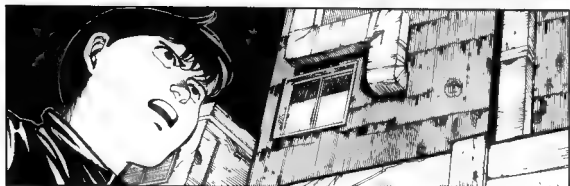




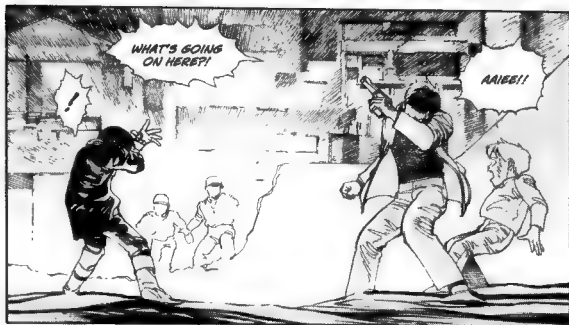




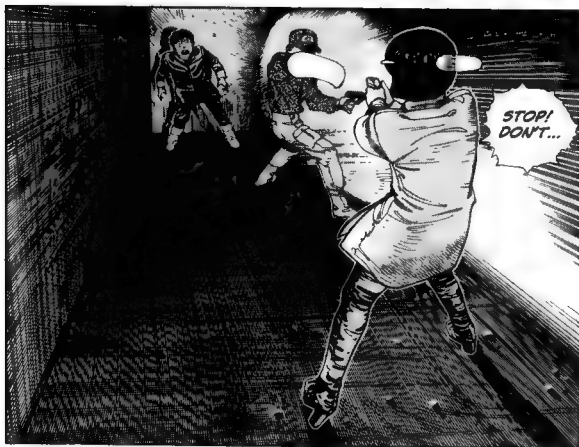
















KSHIII



WHOOA--!

TCOOOF

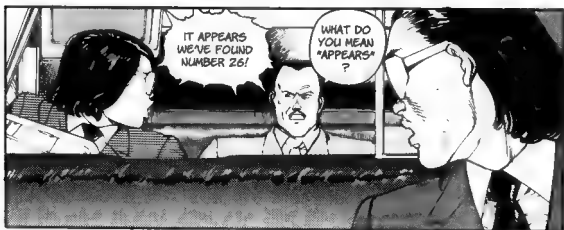


BLAM



THEY'RE
IN THE
SHOPPING
CENTER!

CIRCLE
AROUND THE
OTHER SIDE
AND CUT
THEM OFF!



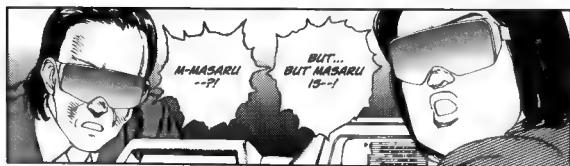
IT APPEARS
WE'VE FOUND
NUMBER 26!

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN
"APPEARS"
?

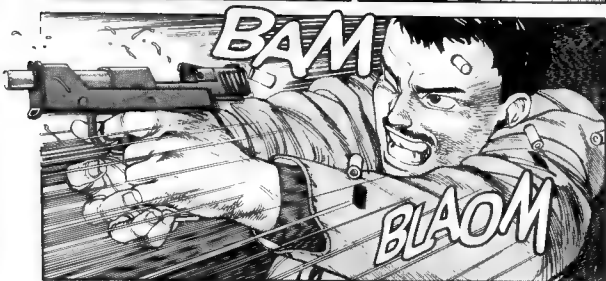
THERE HAS BEEN
NO POSITIVE
IDENTIFICATION, BUT
OUR FORCES ARE IN
PURSUIT OF THEM
NOW. THEY... HAVE
A GUN.

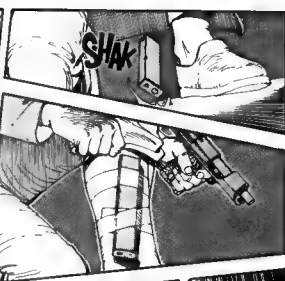
"THEY"...?

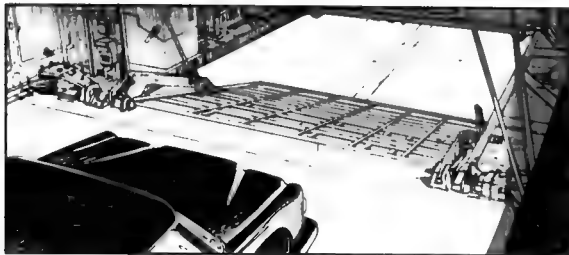
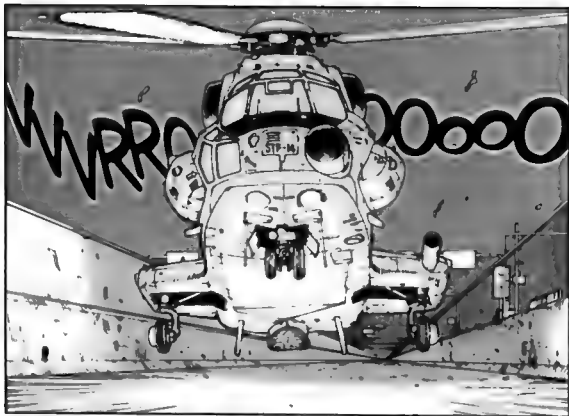


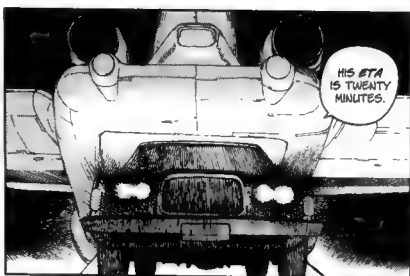


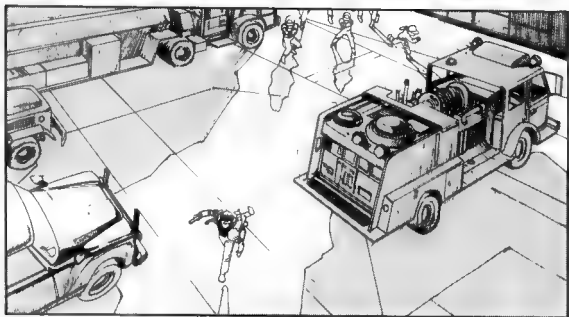
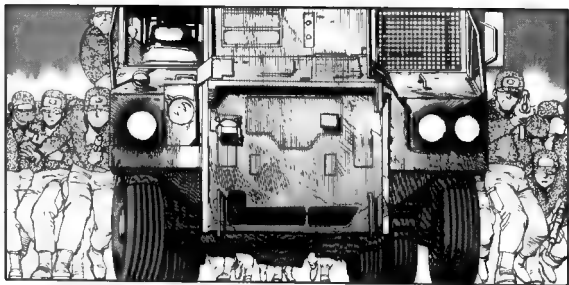


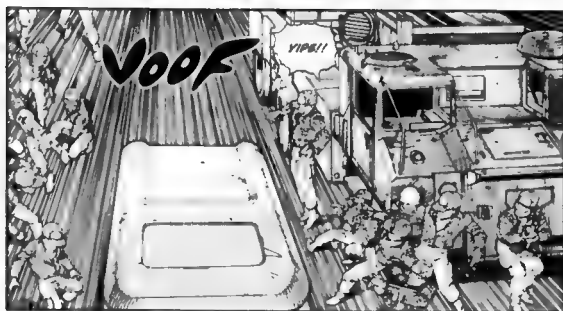






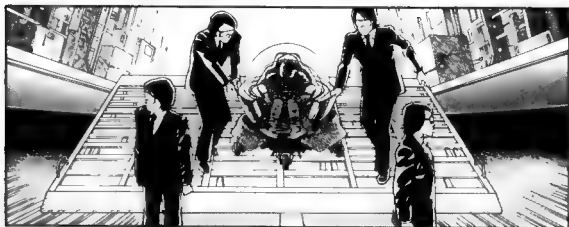
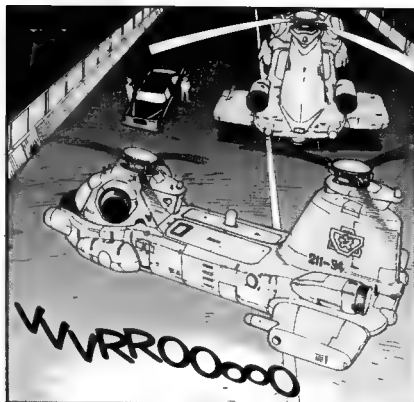


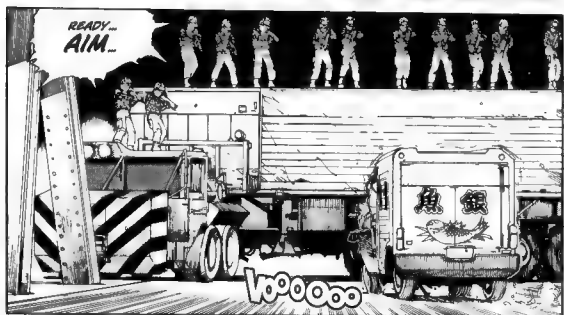


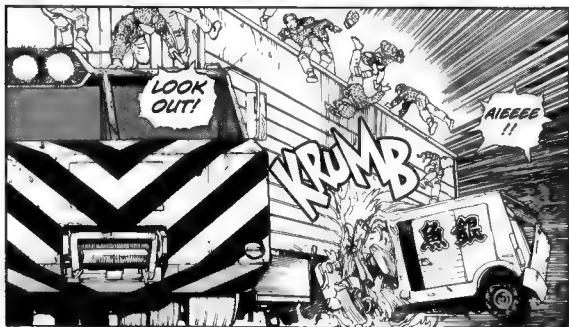






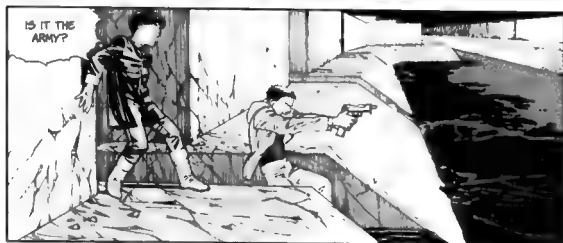
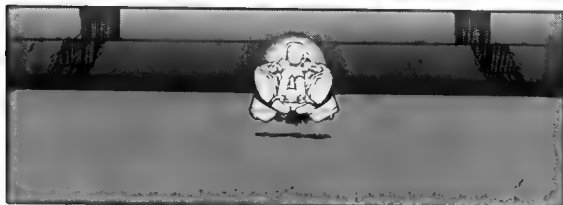


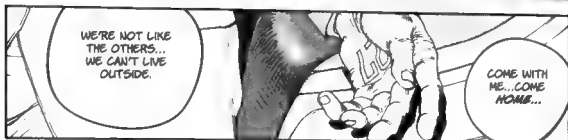




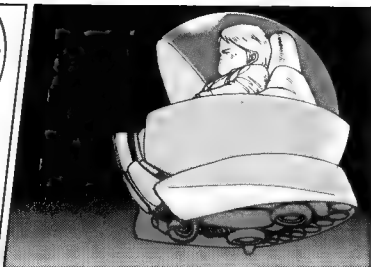










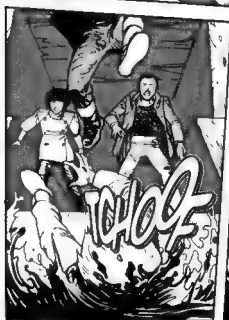


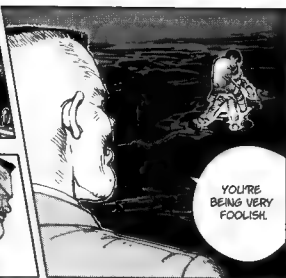




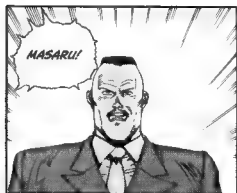
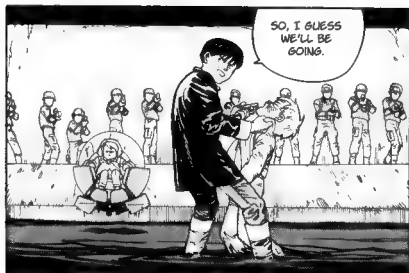
EVEN
SO, I'M
IMPRESSED
YOU GOT
THIS FAR.













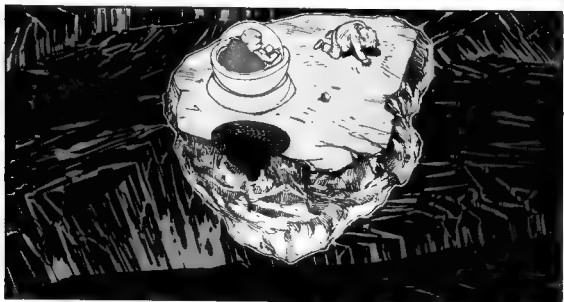
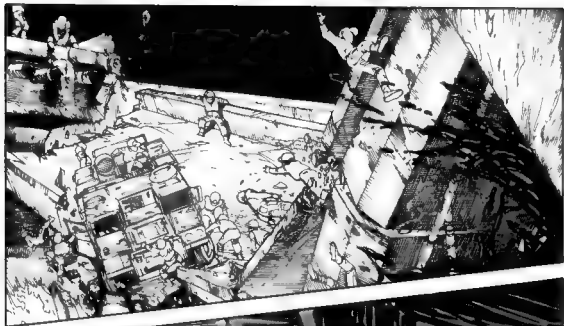


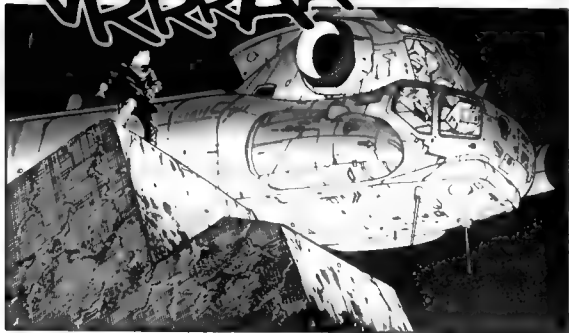


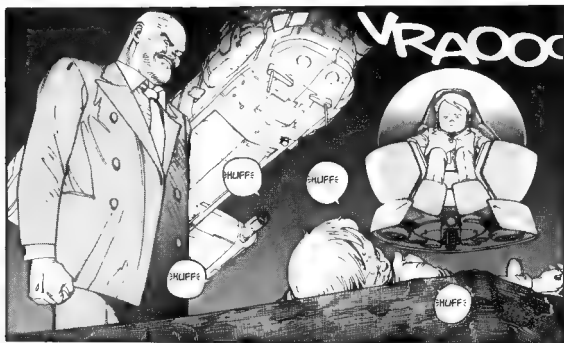
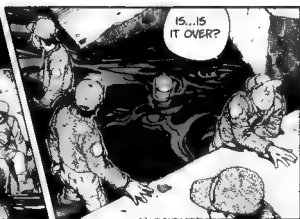




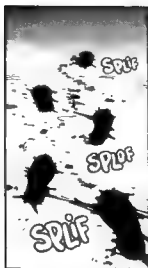


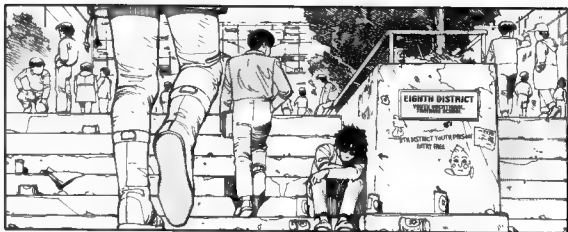


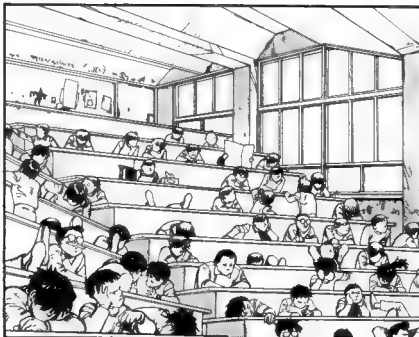












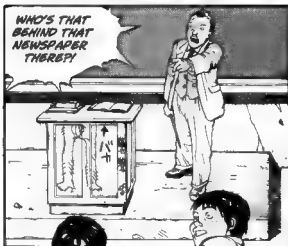
JAPAN TIMES

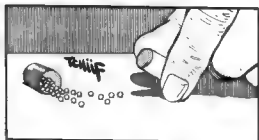
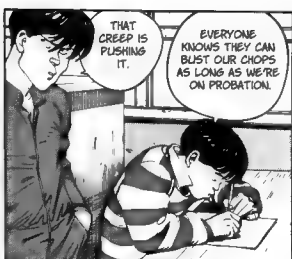
A WEEK AFTER EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT DISASTER, CANAL REPAIRS STILL DELAYED

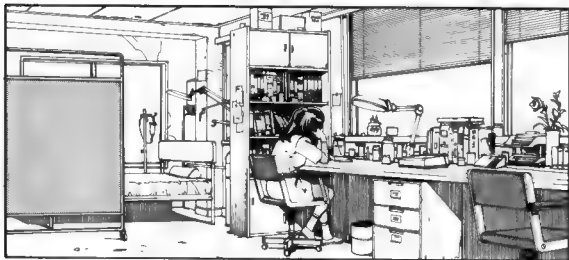
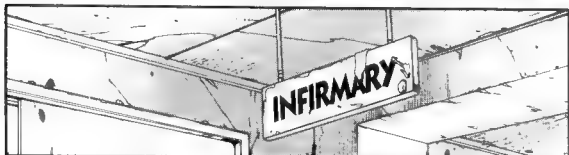
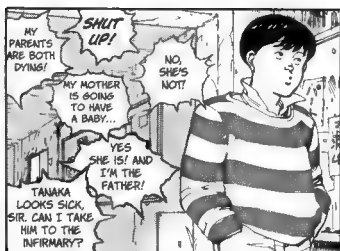
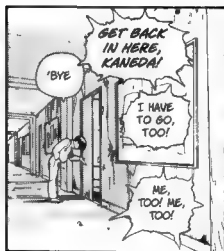
On the Department of Sewers today that delays in the repair work canal in the 18th District continuation of the raining for an additional aspect first sentence the meeting will be in 17th District Mr Kohada said. condemned the extension saying "How long does it take Considering what we pay in full service restored by now"



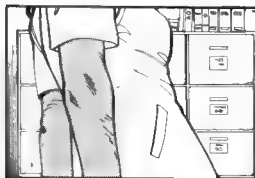
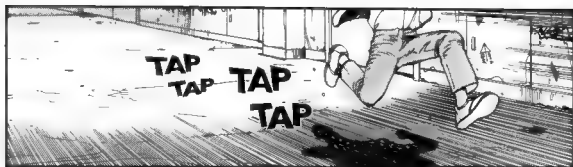
Kazuyuki Saito of the Department of Sewers also commented on rumors that the collapse of the canal was caused by inadequate construction. "Our staff is examining the damaged area comparing it to the approved plans not ruling out anything at this point the construction company responsible for the work, Ohmori General Con

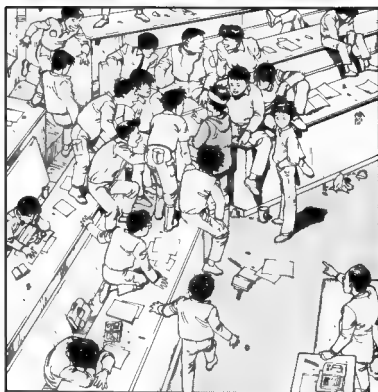


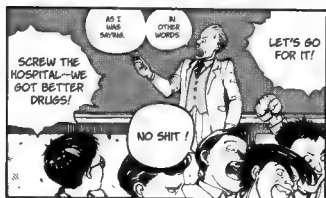
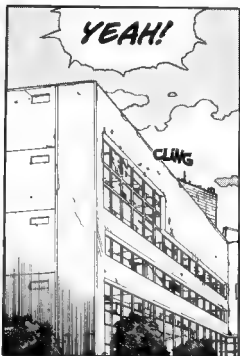


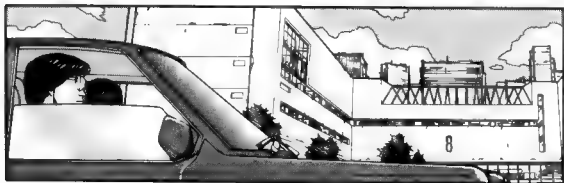
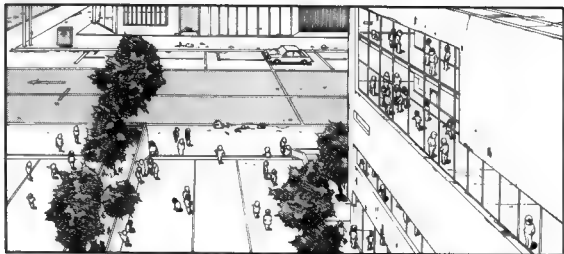














WHERE DID
THAT STUFF
YOU GAVE
ME EARLIER
COME FROM?



DID YOU FIND
OUT WHAT IT
IS?



PART OF IT...
BUT IT CONTAINED
CERTAIN ELEMENTS THAT
DEFIED ANALYSIS, AT
LEAST BY OUR
EQUIPMENT.



SO, DON'T
KEEP ME IN
SUSPENSE. THE
GANG IS STILL
WAITING FOR
THEIR STUFF,
YOU KNOW.



COMPARED TO
WHAT WAS IN YOUR
PILL, THOSE ARE
CANDY. ONE GRAIN IS
FIVE TIMES AS
POWERFUL AS THE
ENTIRE CONTENTS
OF THAT BAG.



WHAT?



IF SOMEONE
TOOK THE WHOLE
THING, HE'D GO
MAD... OR
DIE.

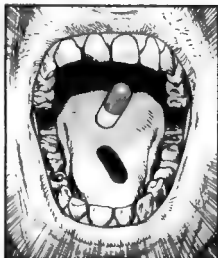


HMM



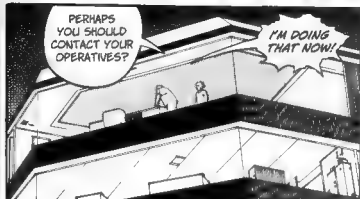
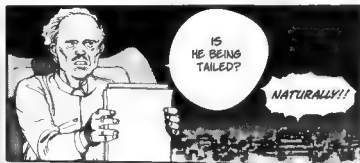
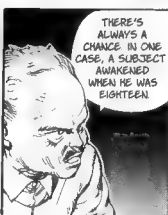
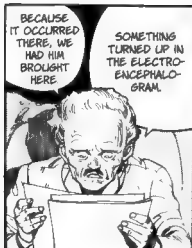
ONE
MORE
THING...

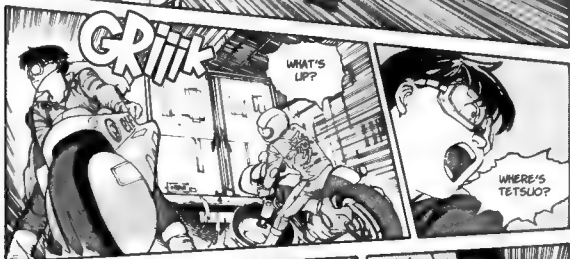




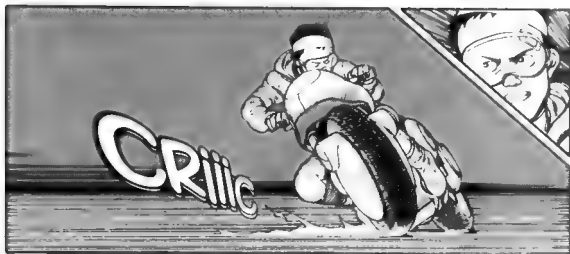
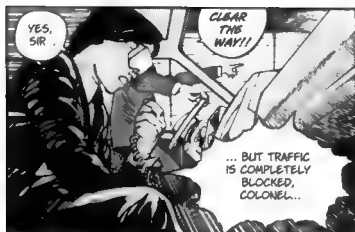


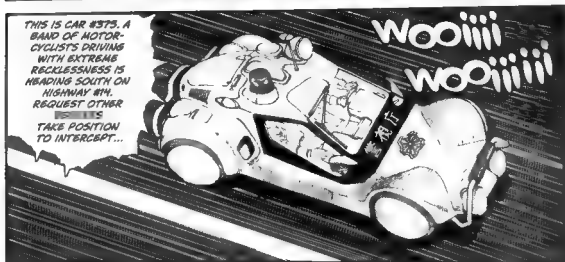
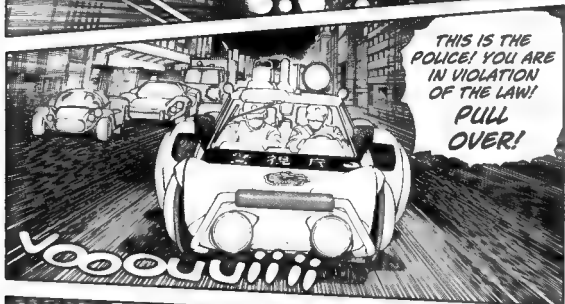


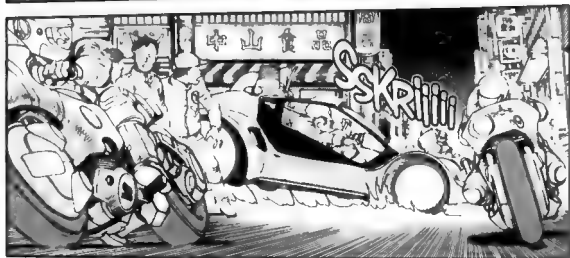
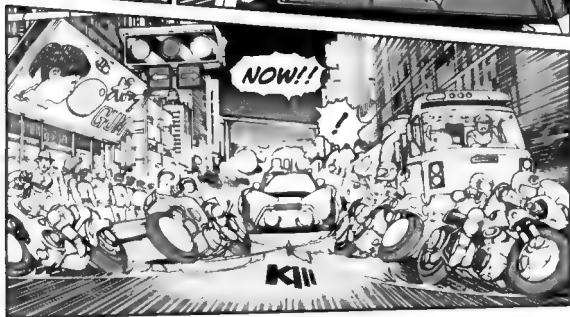


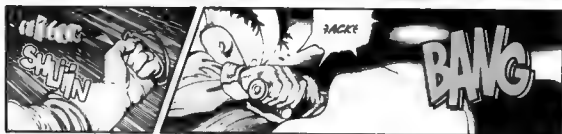
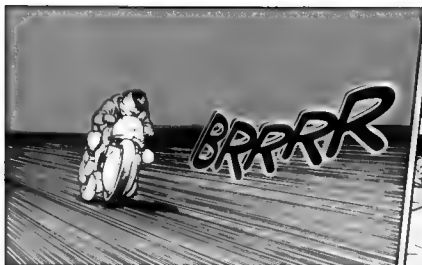


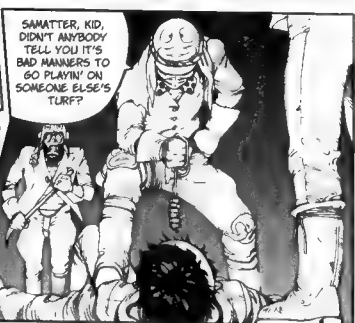






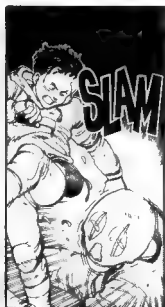


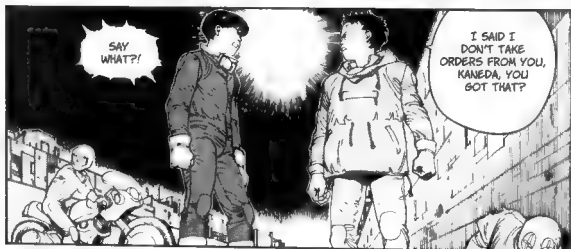


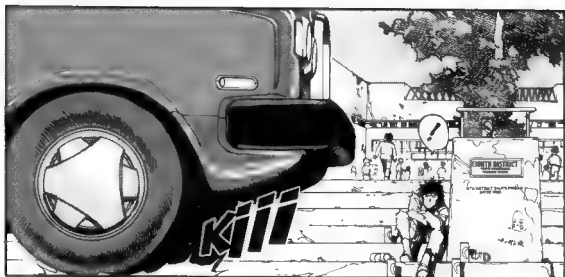


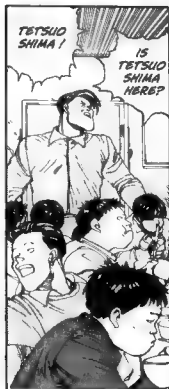


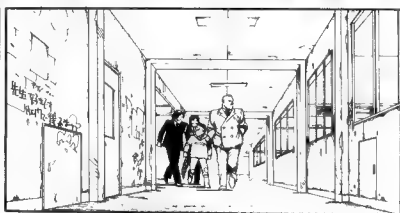
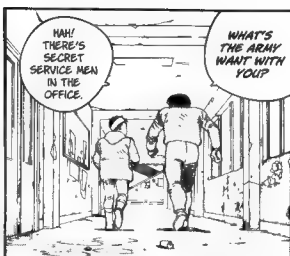




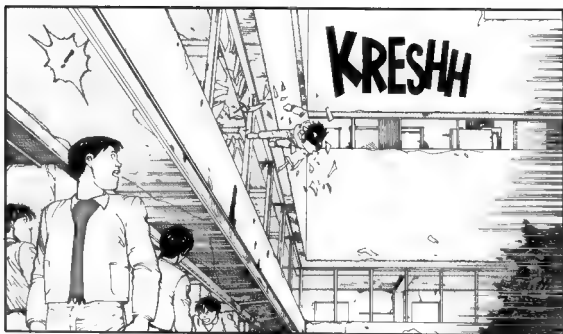


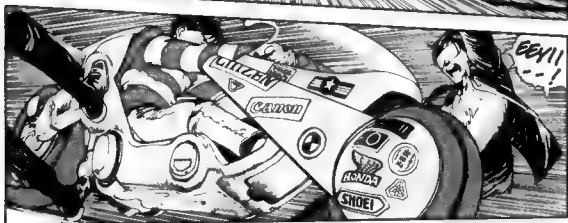




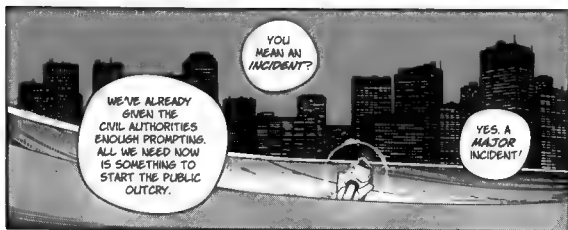
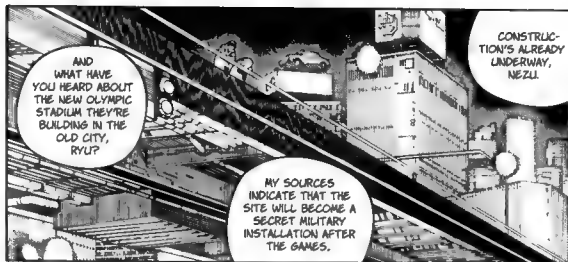


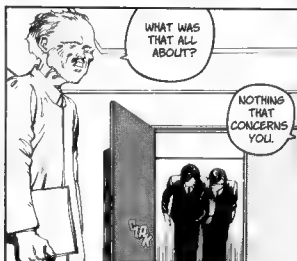


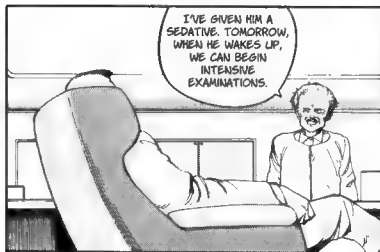








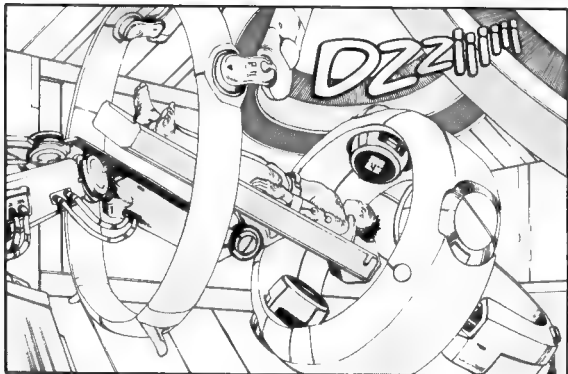
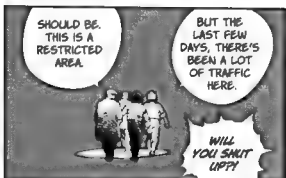
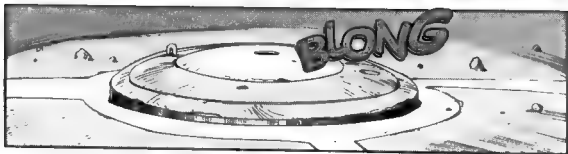


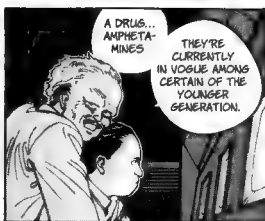
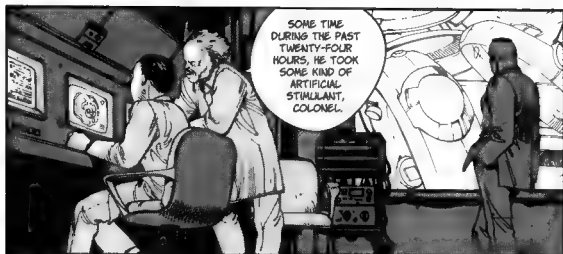


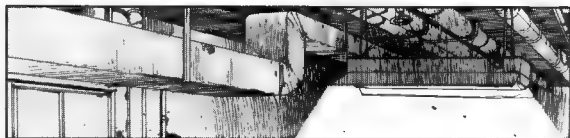
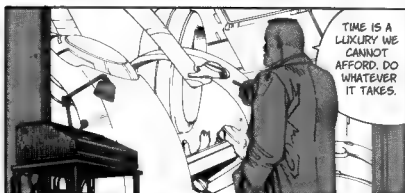
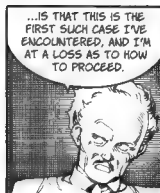


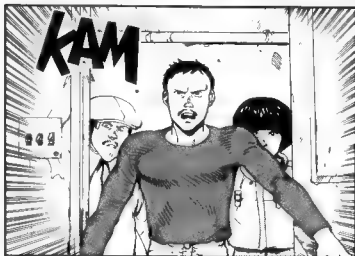


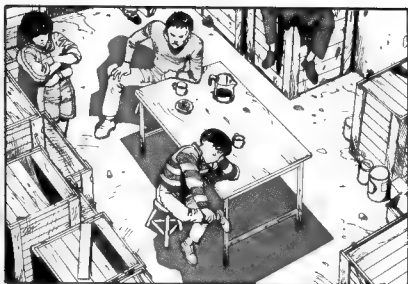




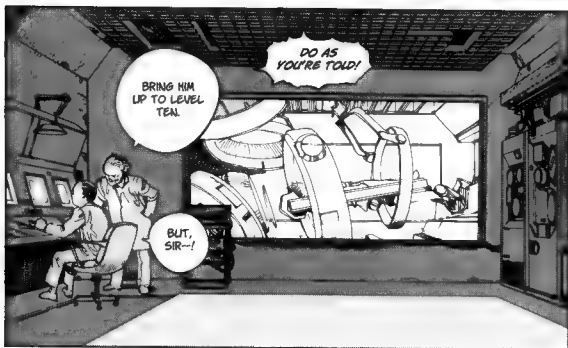
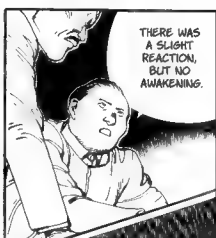
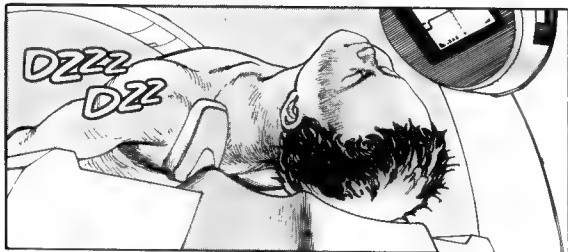




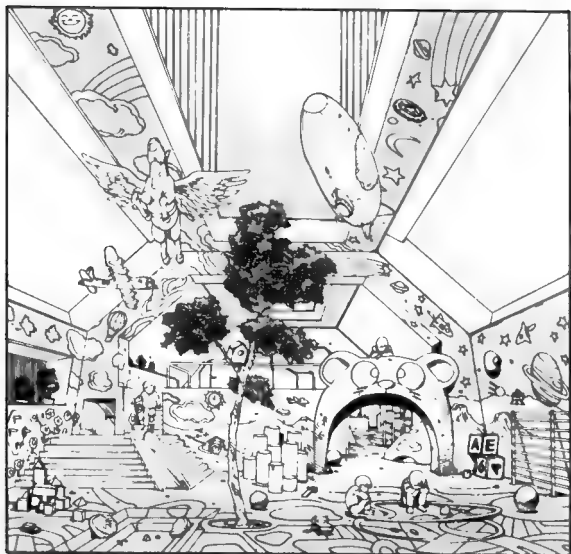












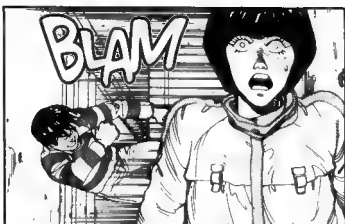




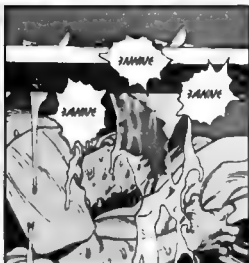


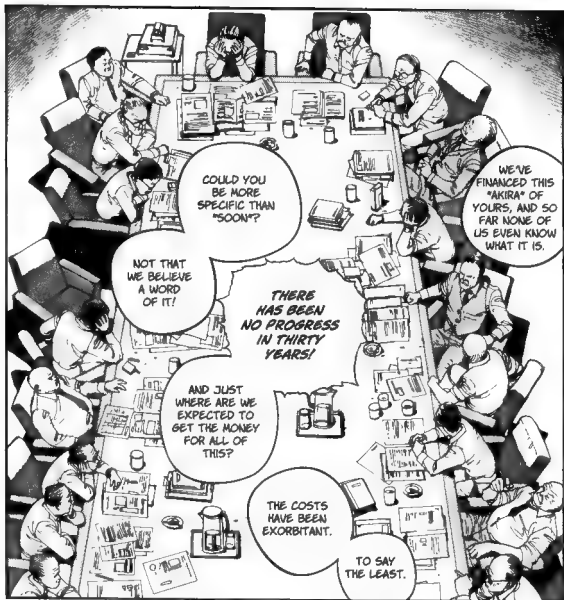


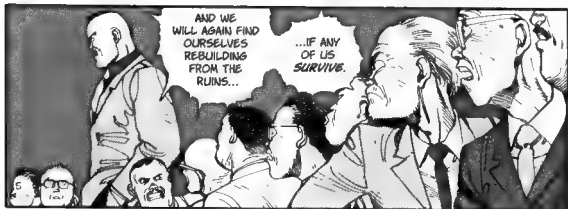




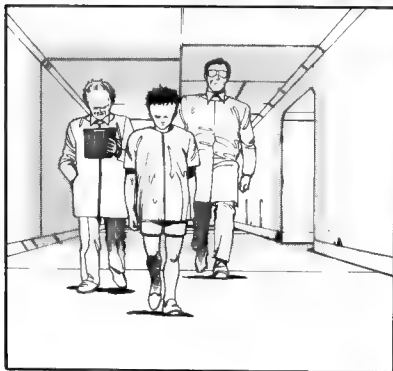


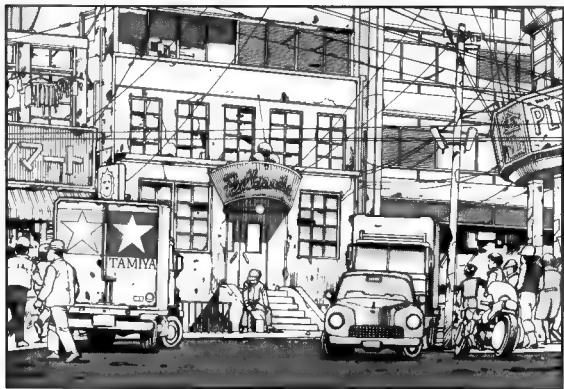


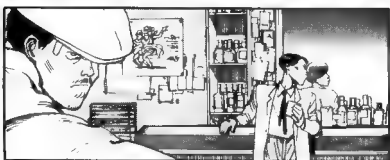


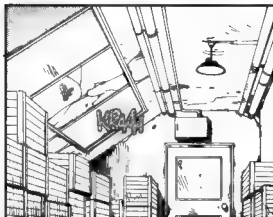
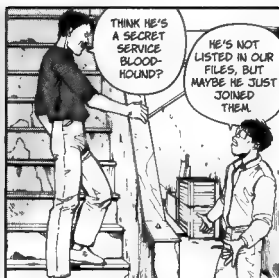




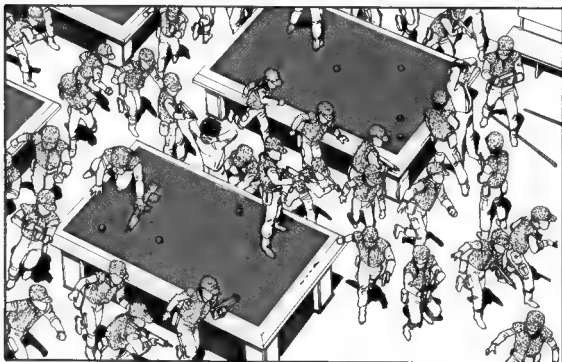




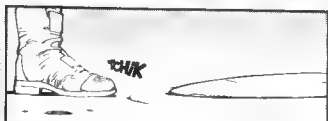
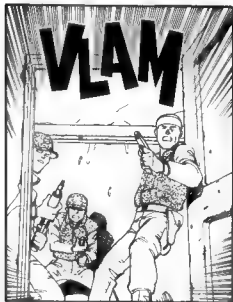


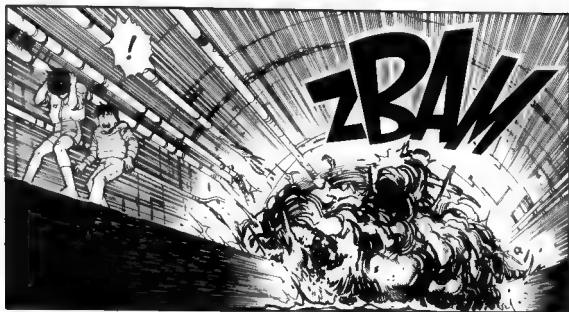
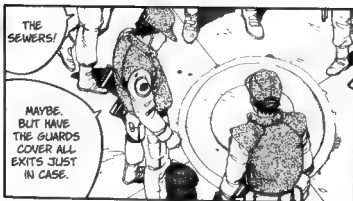


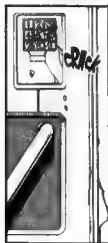
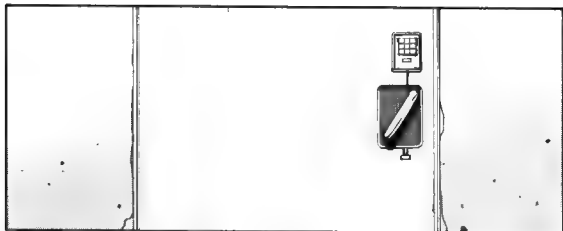


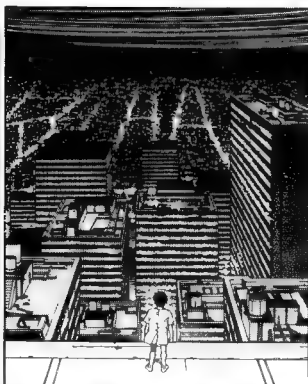


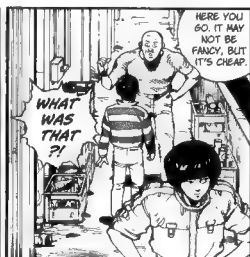






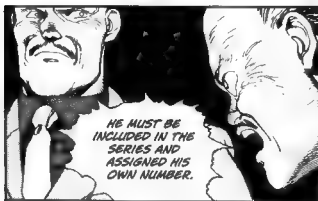


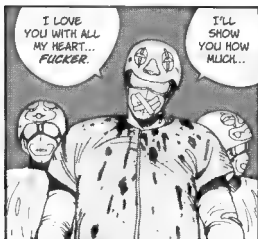
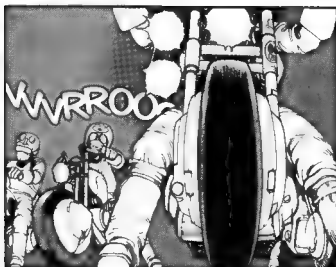




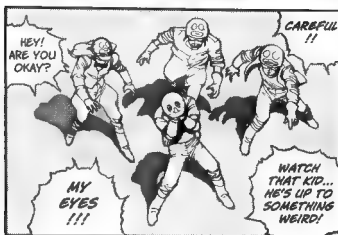
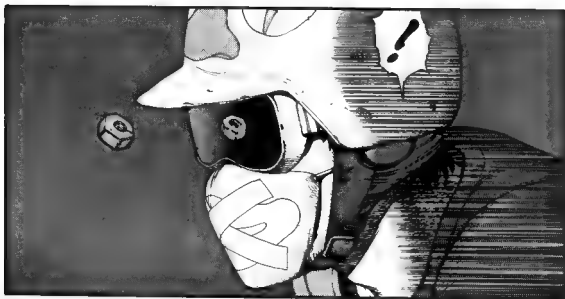


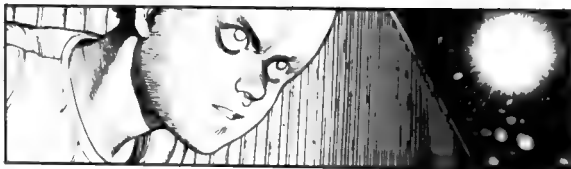


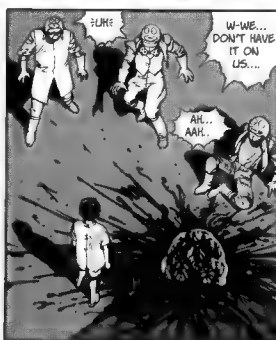














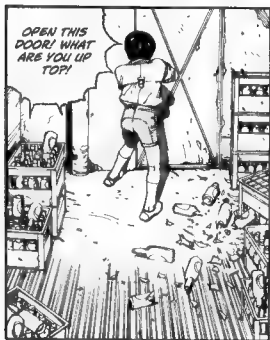


YOU WERE EXPECTING A SUITE AT THE PLAZA?











HEY!
WE'RE
HERE!



I
SAID...



SHUT UP!
IT MAKES MY
HEAD HURT
WHEN YOU
TALK.

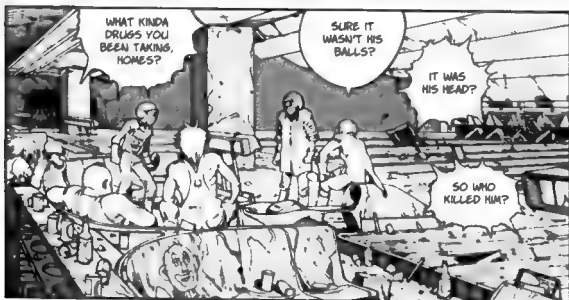


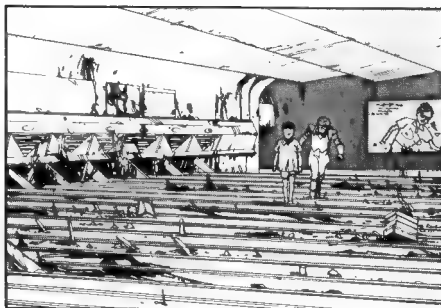
WHAT'S
JOKER GONNA
SAY ABOUT
IT?

IS HE
NUTS BRINGING
THAT WEIRDO
HERE?

HOW
SHOULD
I KNOW?

CAREFUL.
DON'T TRIP
IN THE
DARK.





ARE YOU
GONNA KEEP
ME HERE ALL
NIGHT?!



HEY! IT'S
THAT WEIRD
KID FROM
BEFORE!



WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?

WELL...
THAT KID...
HE...



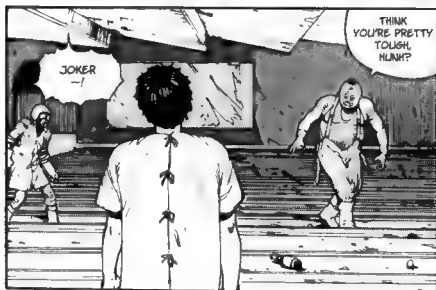
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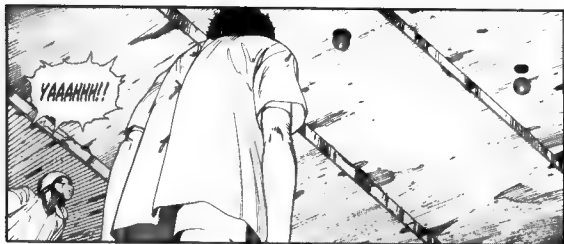


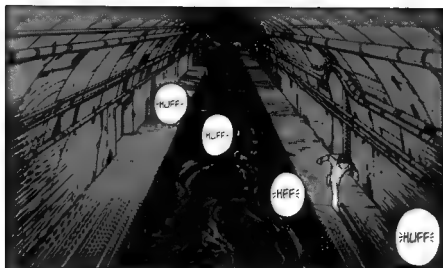
HEY
!!!

YIIIIII!!

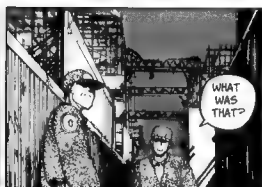
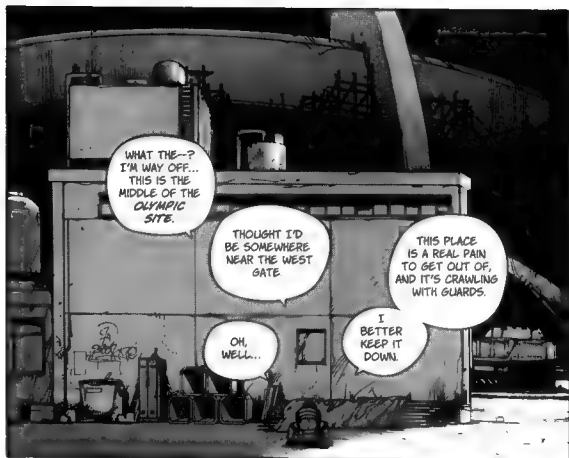
BLAM

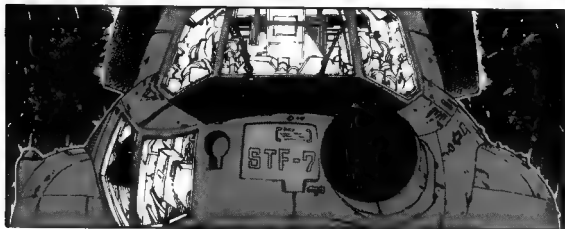
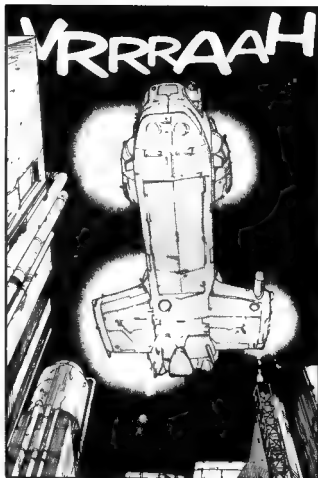


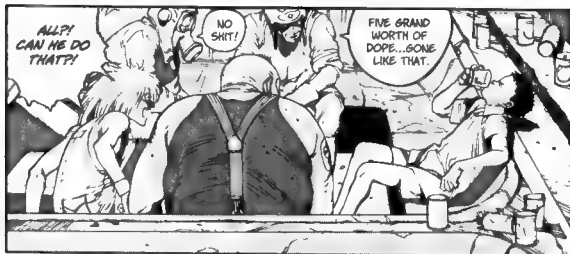


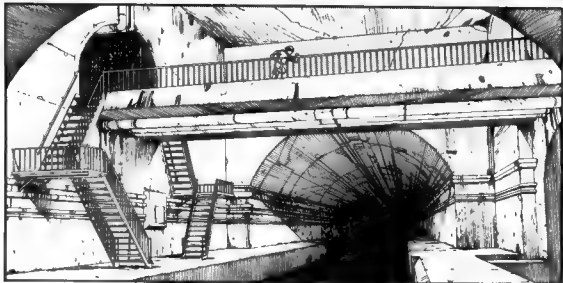


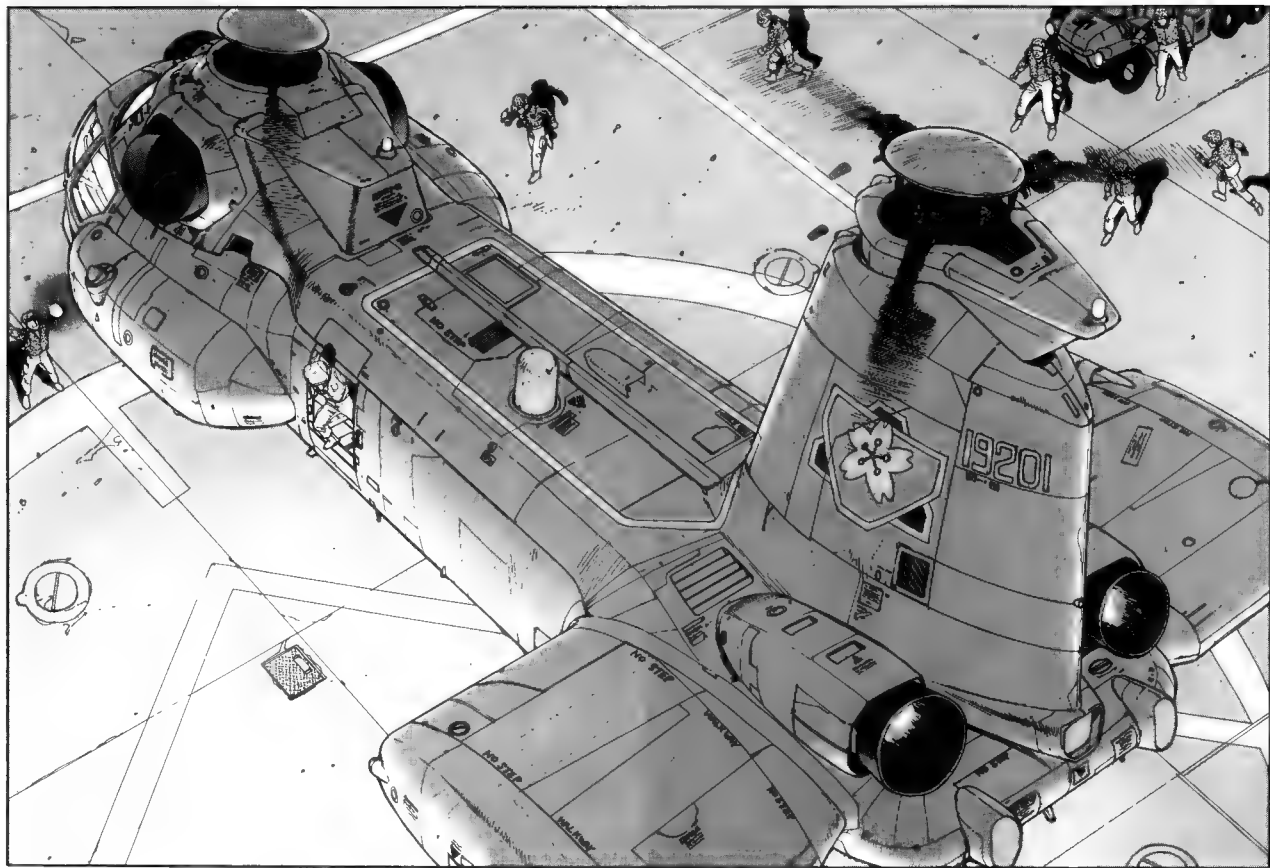


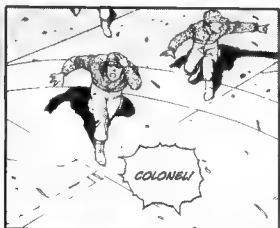
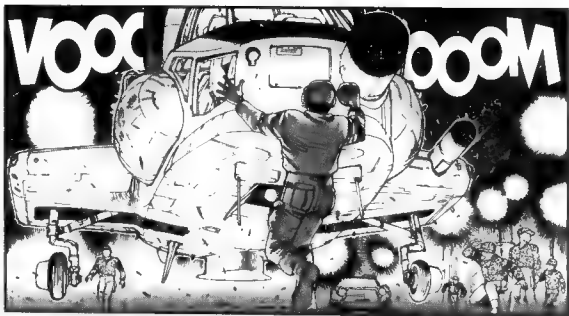


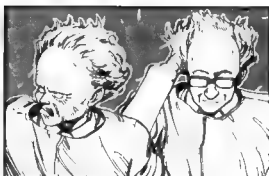






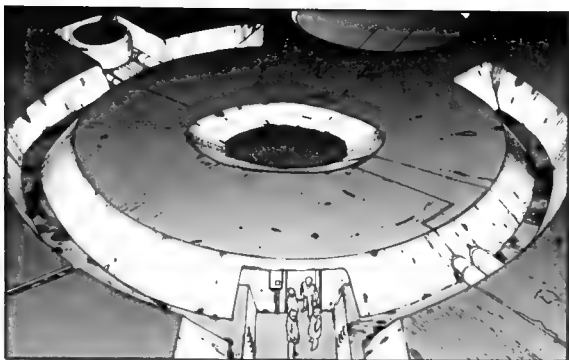


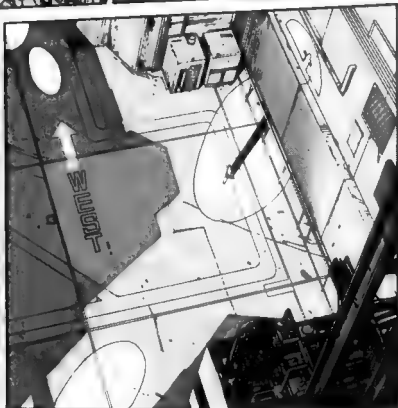


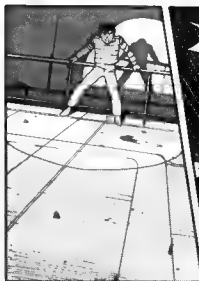


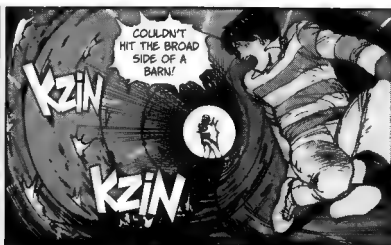
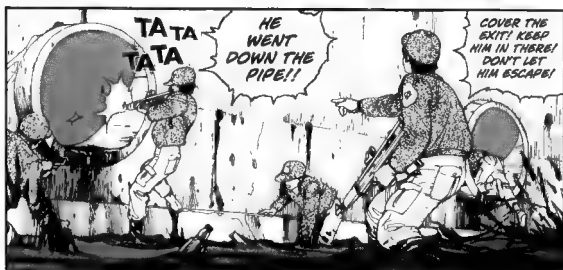


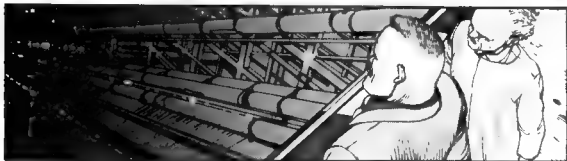
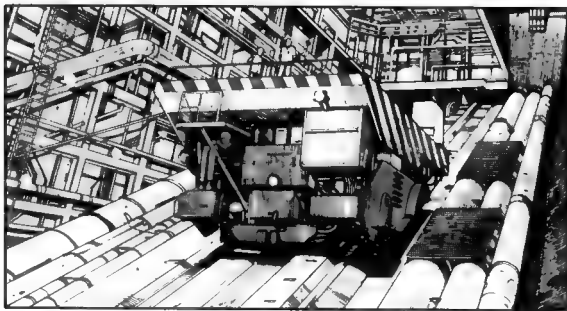
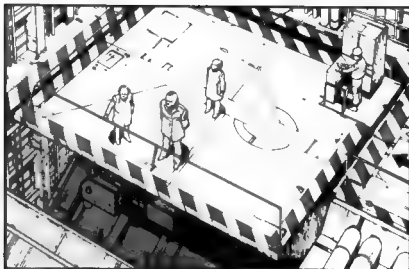


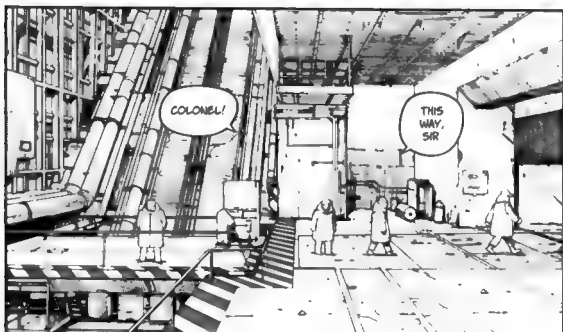
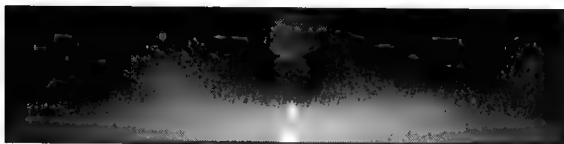


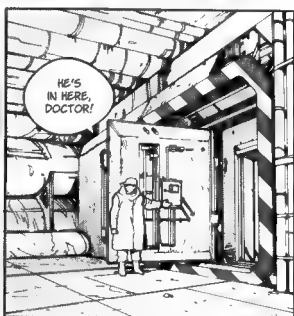
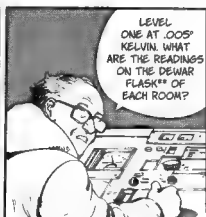
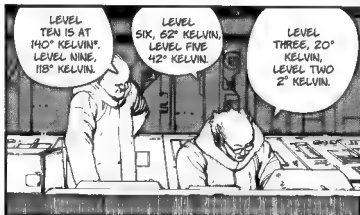
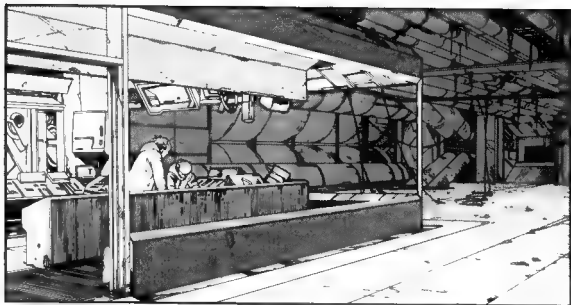




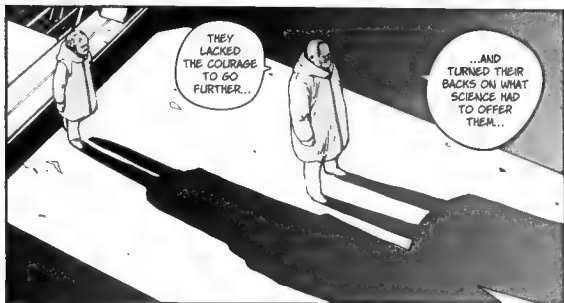
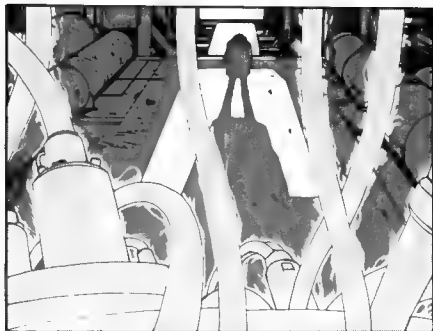


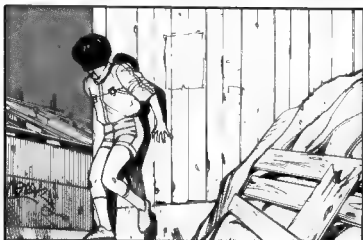
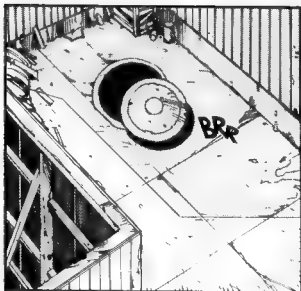


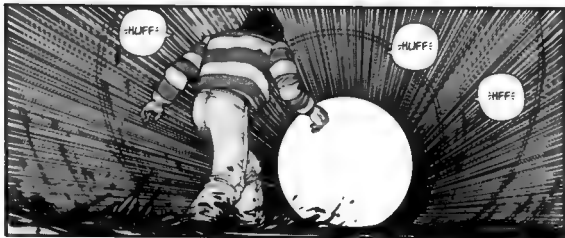
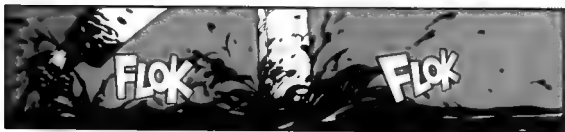




*KELVIN: TEMPERATURE SCALE IN WHICH ABSOLUTE ZERO (-273° C) IS MEASURED AS 0°K.
**DEWAR FLASK: DOUBLE WALLS WITH INSULATED SURFACES AND A VACUUM BETWEEN,
USED FOR THE CONTAINMENT OF EXTREME COLD.



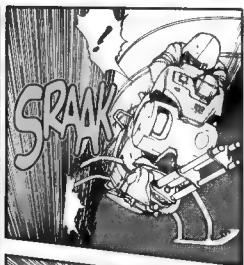
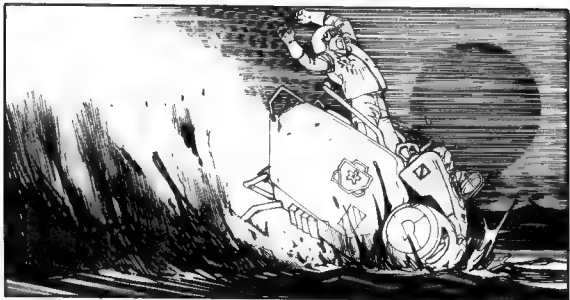








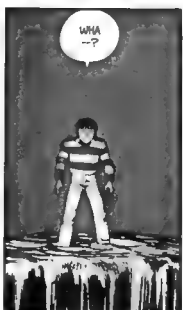








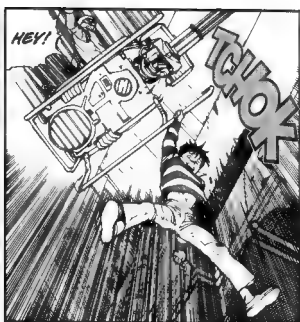




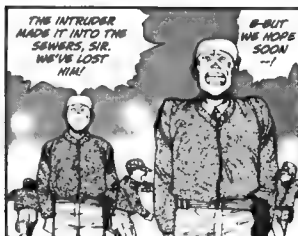


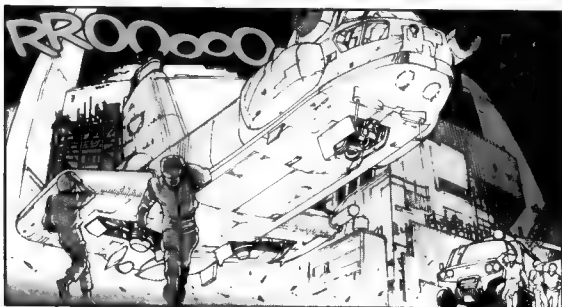
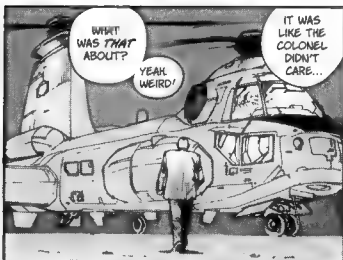
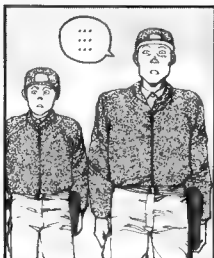


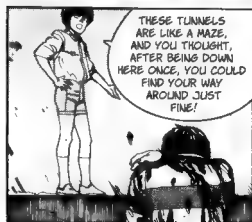
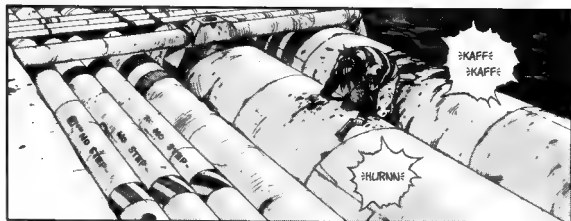


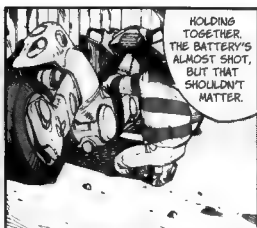


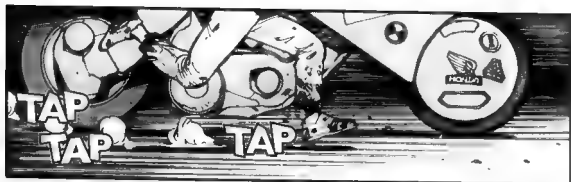


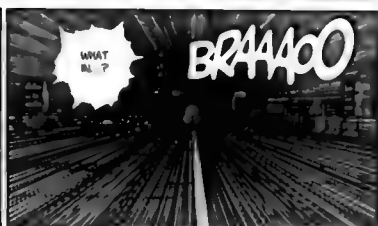
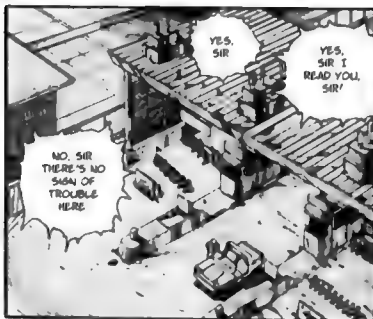
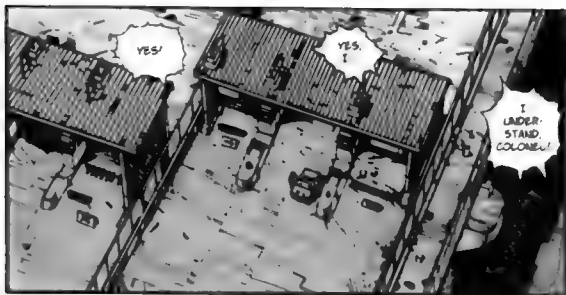






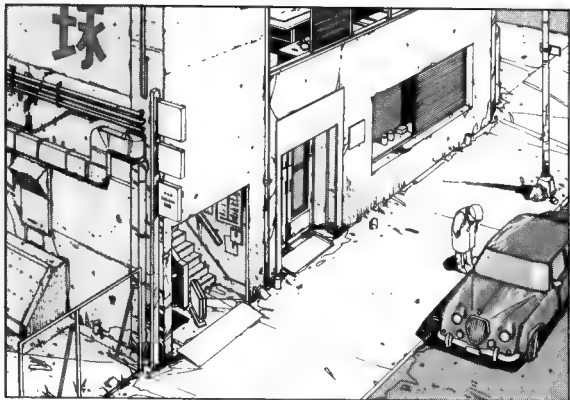


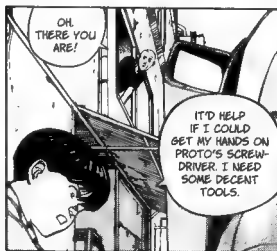
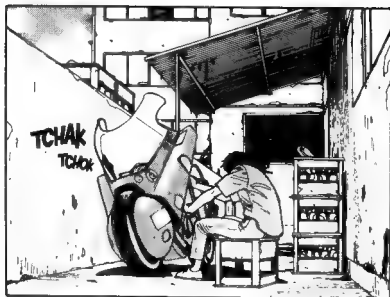


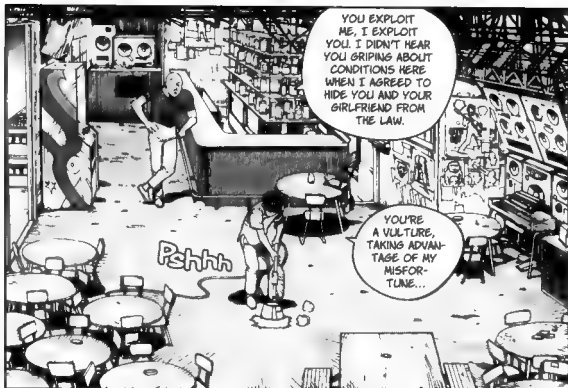


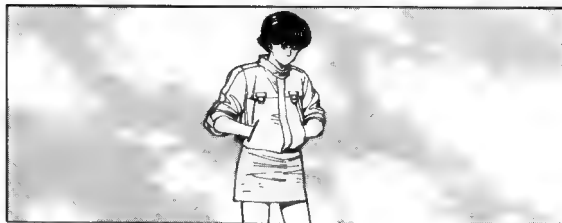
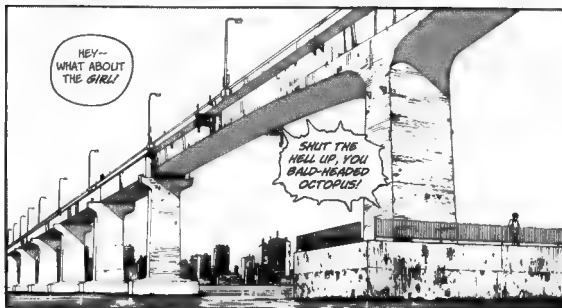




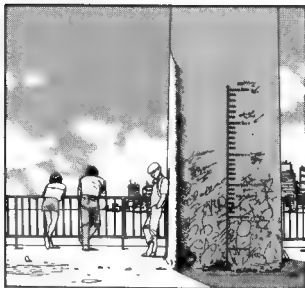












...BUCKETS
THAT FLY,
HUNK?

THAT'S
SORT OF
WHAT THEY
LOOKED
LIKE.



I'VE HEARD
OF THEM
FLYING PLAT-
FORMS.

THE ARMY
INTRODUCED
THEM THIS
YEAR



SO THAT'S SOMETHING
ELSE THEY CAN USE
AGAINST US.

AND IT
LOOKED LIKE
THEY'D DOUBLED
THE GUARD SINCE
THE LAST
TIME.



WE BEAT THE
BUSHES FOR SMALL
GAME AND A TIGER
COMES AFTER
US...



YEAH...



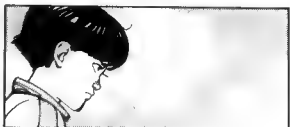
YOU BLEW
UP THE OLYMPIC
SITE TO STOP THE
ARMY USING IT AFTER
THE GAMES, DIDN'T
YOU?

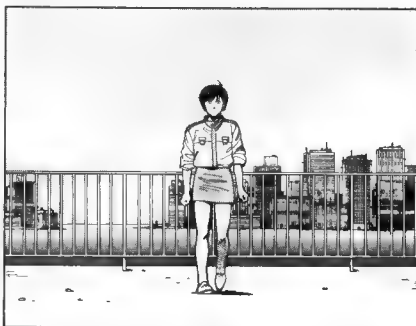
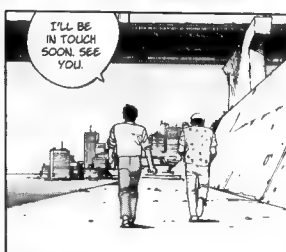
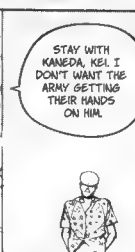


WORD IS,
TOP BRASS
HELD AN
EMERGENCY
MEETING JUST
A FEW WEEKS
AGO.

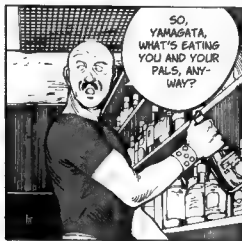


WE GOT REPORTS ON
PART OF WHAT WENT ON
THERE. I DON'T KNOW
EXACTLY WHAT'S GOING
DOWN, BUT THEY'RE
POURING PHENOMENAL
AMOUNTS OF MONEY
INTO IT.





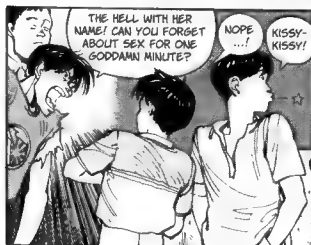




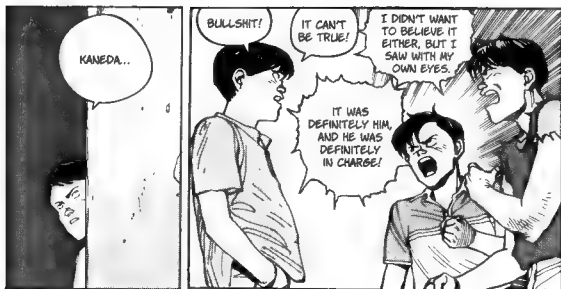


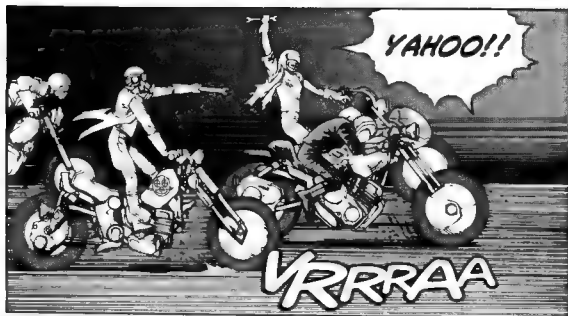




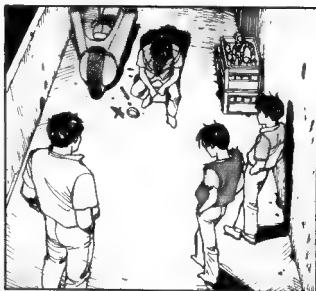


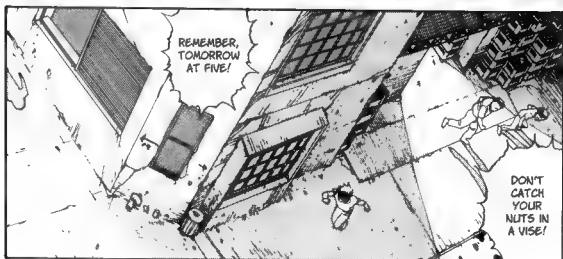


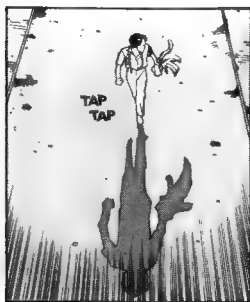


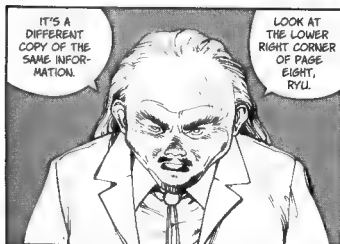
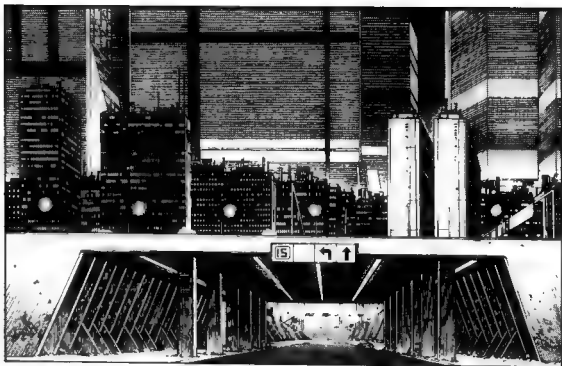


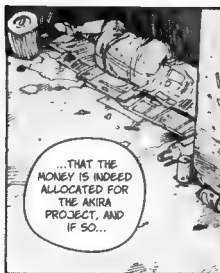
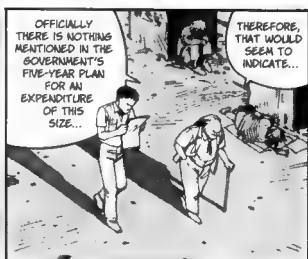


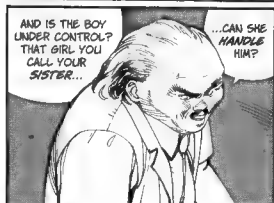
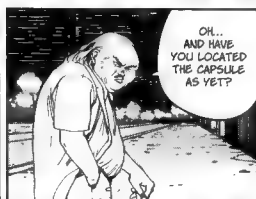
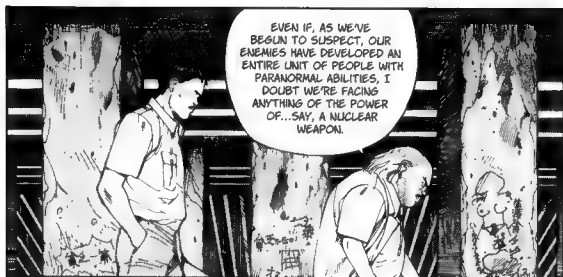




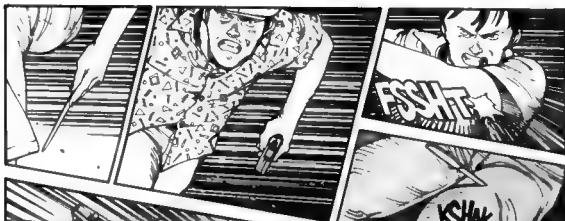


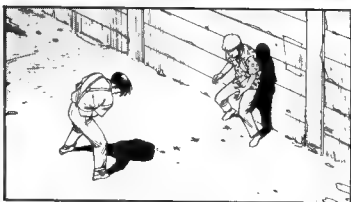


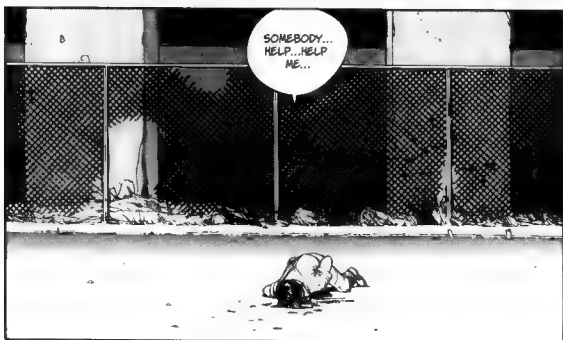
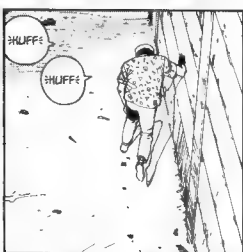
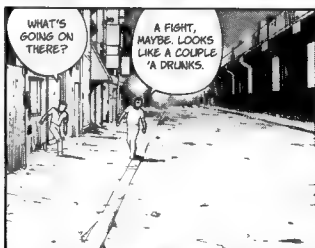


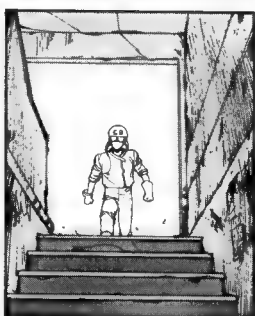
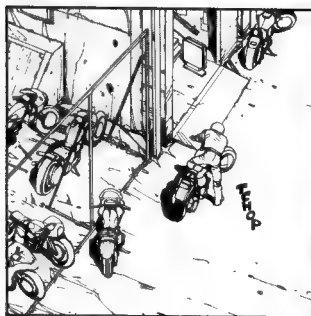
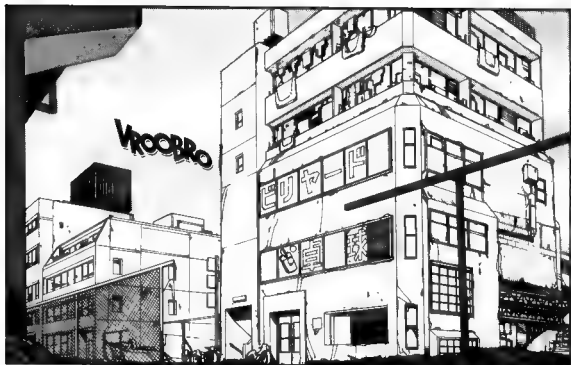


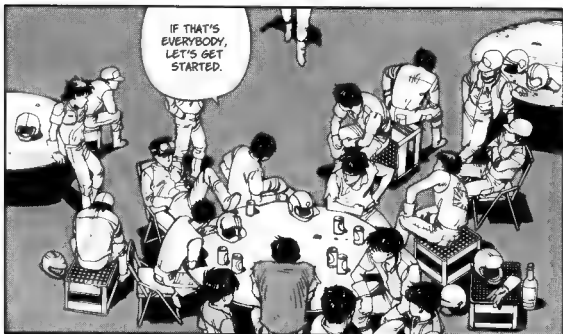




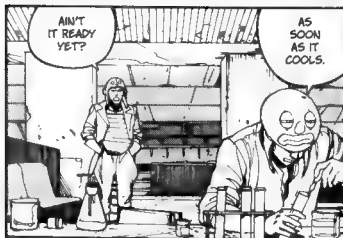
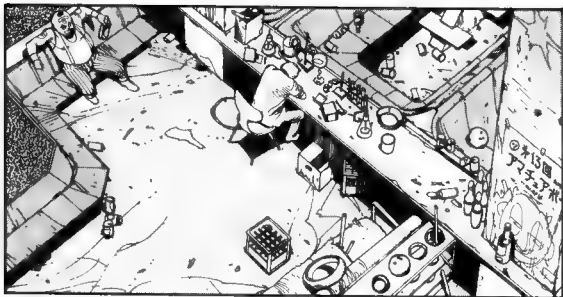


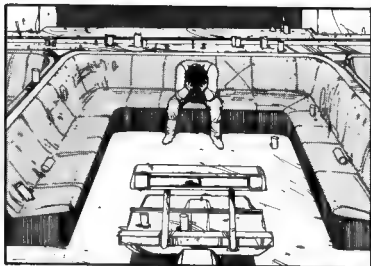














HE RIPPED A
GUY'S HEAD
OPEN... WITHOUT
TOUCHING
HIM?!



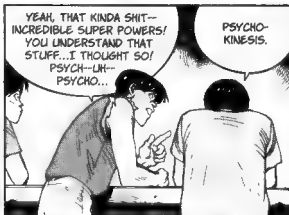
I KNEW YOU'D
THINK I WAS
CRAZY! THAT'S
WHY I DIDN'T
WANT TO TELL
YOU!



MAKING THINGS
MOVE AND
EXPLODE...



YEAH, THAT KINDA SHIT--
INCREDIBLE SUPER POWERS!
YOU UNDERSTAND THAT
STUFF...I THOUGHT SO!
PSYCH--UH--
PSYCHO...



PSYCHO-
KINESIS.

THIS STUFF'S
BEEN COMING
UP A LOT
LATELY.



HOW
FASCINATING!

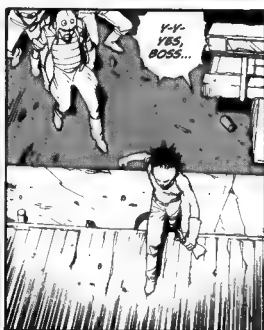
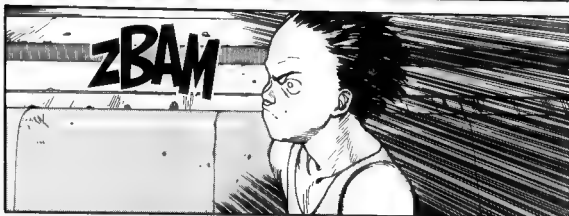


I
WANT
TO HEAR
MORE.



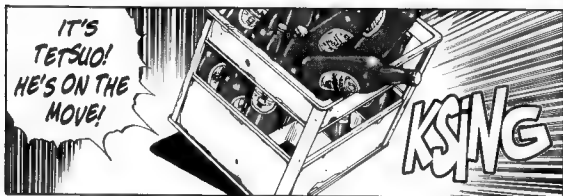
YEAH...
ME,
TOO.





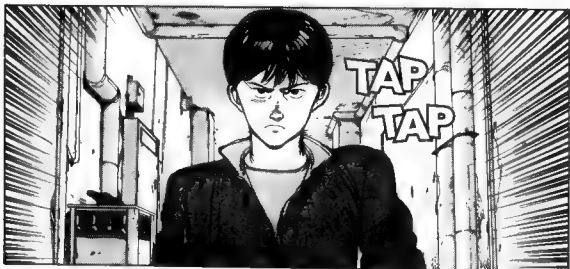


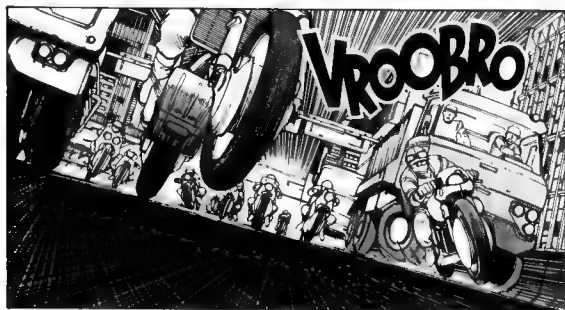


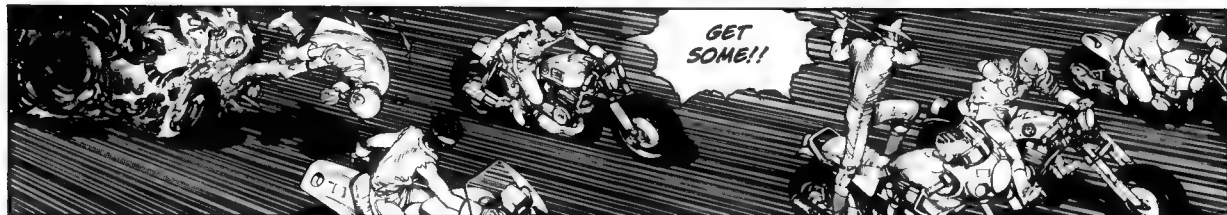
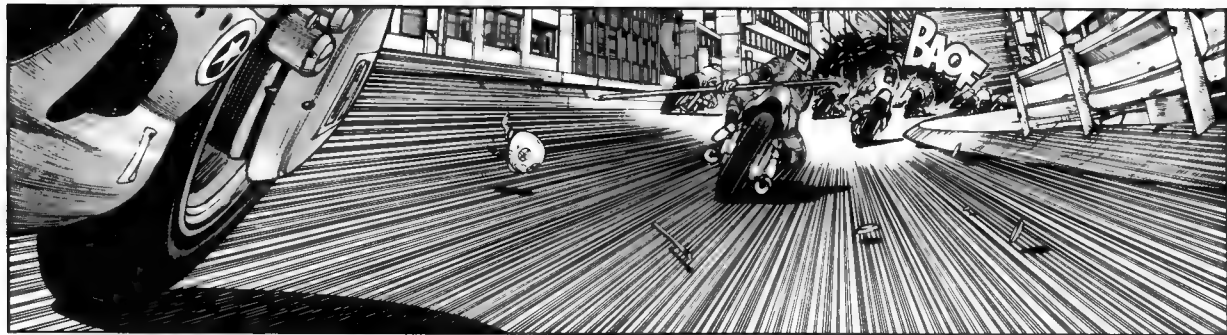


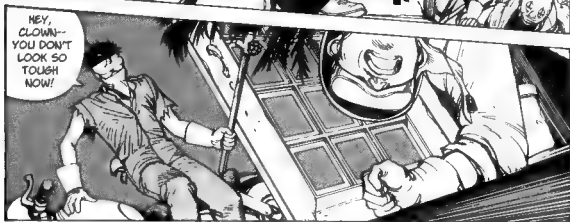


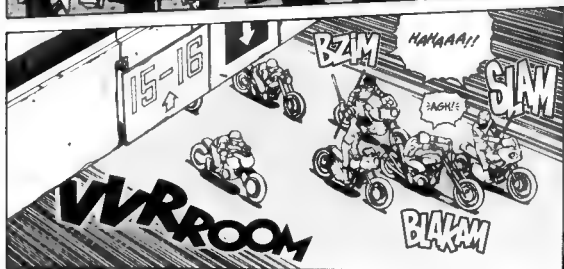


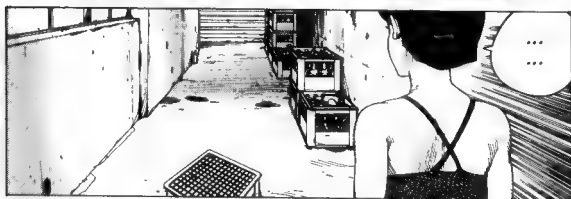
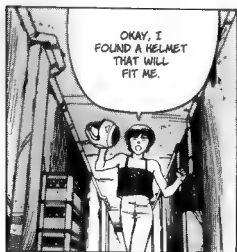


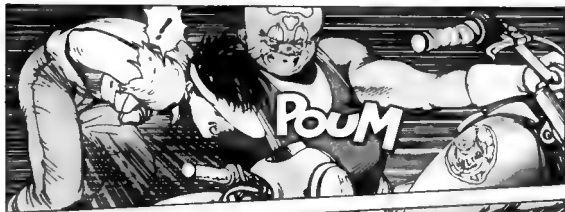




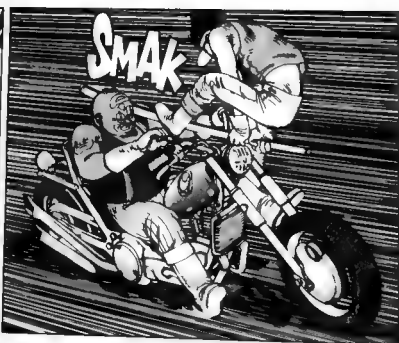


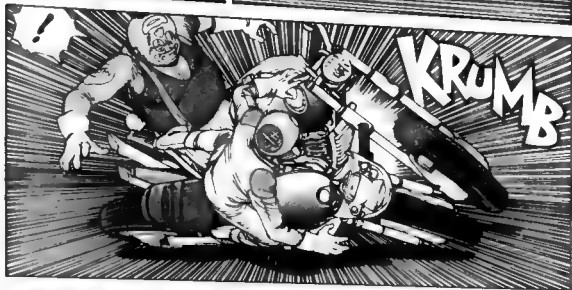
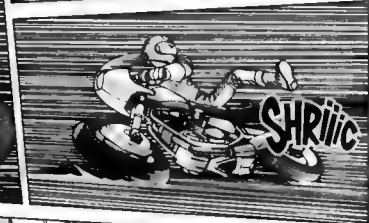




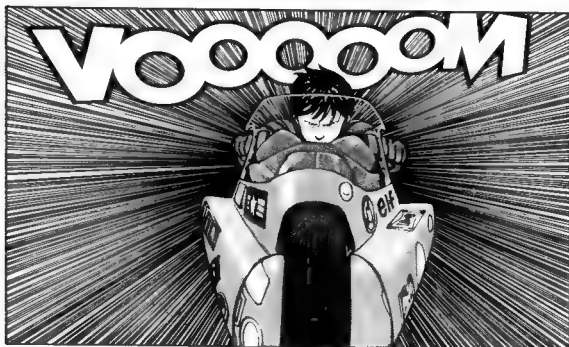


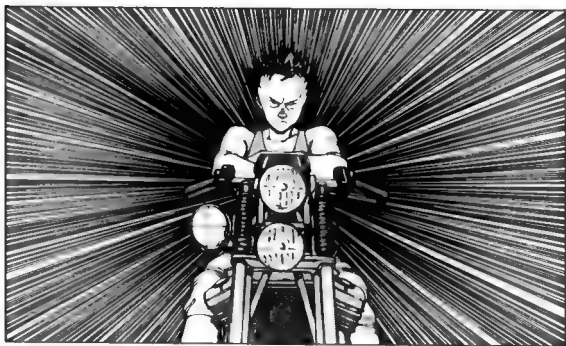
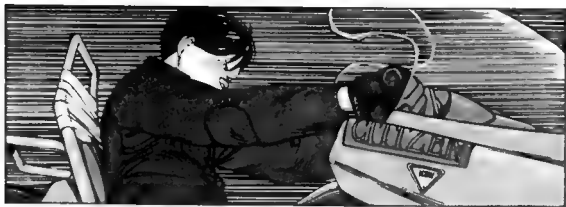


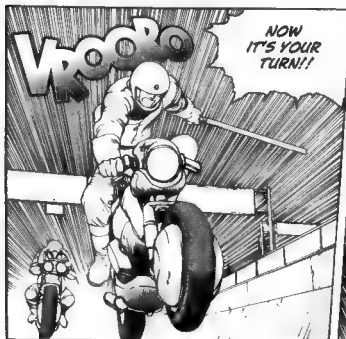
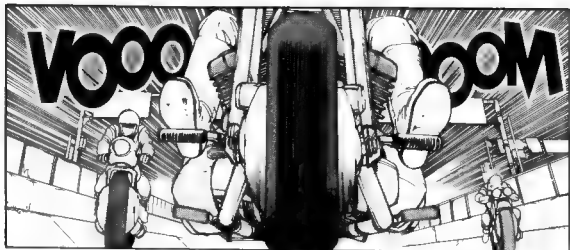


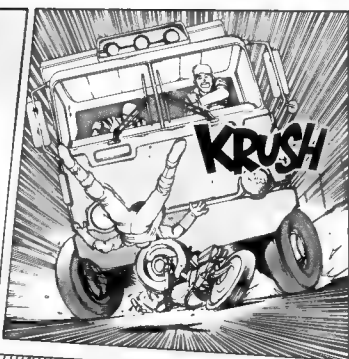


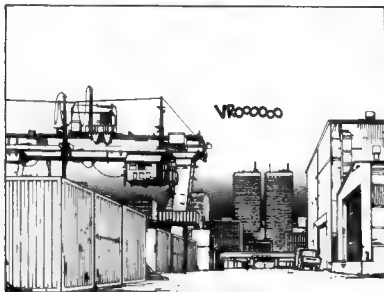
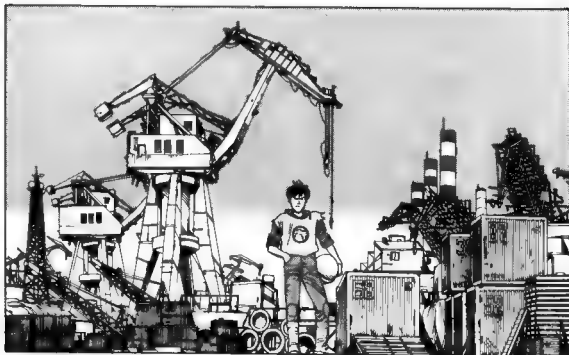


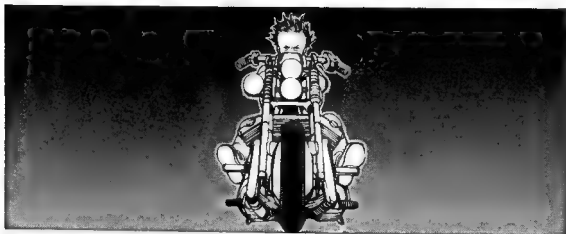


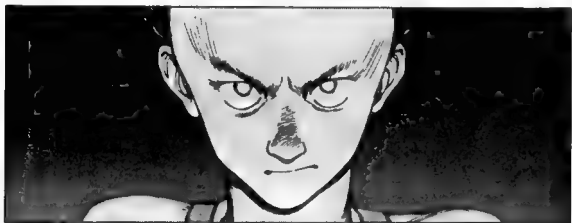


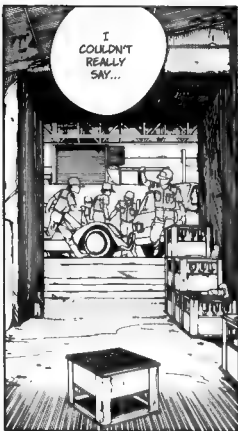






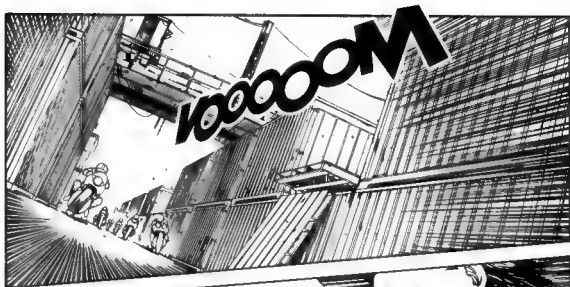


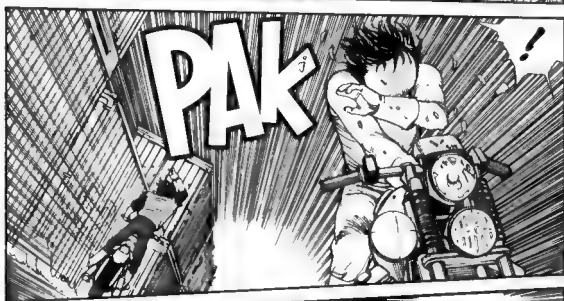




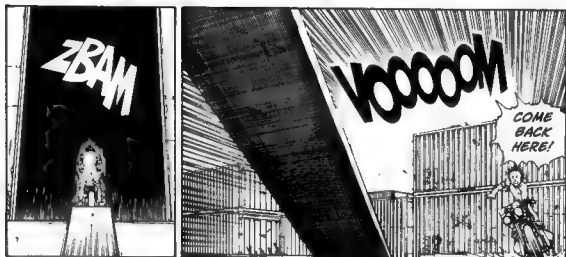
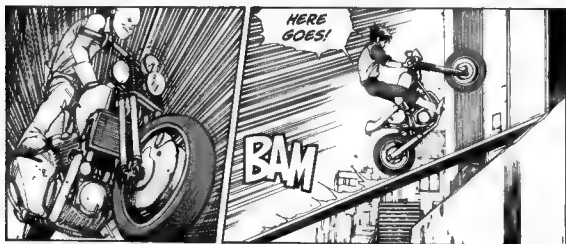


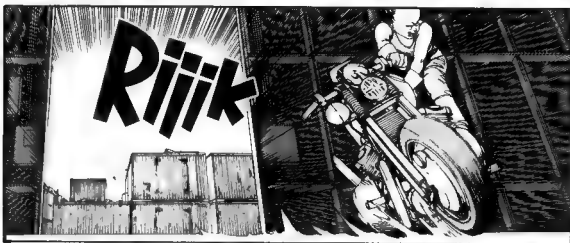
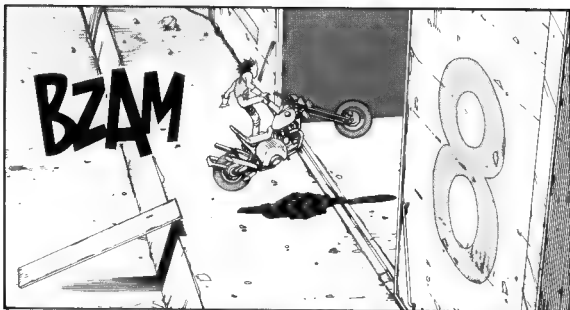












GONG

OKAY,
TETSUO...
YOUR ASS
IS OURS!



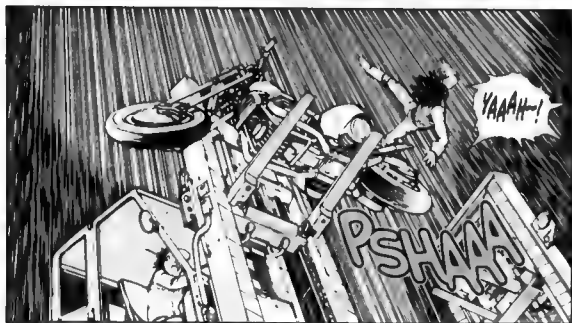
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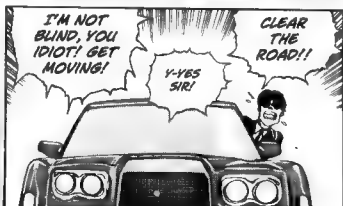
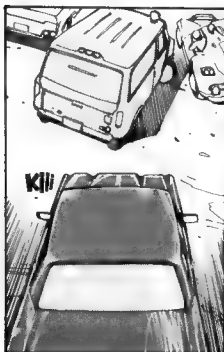
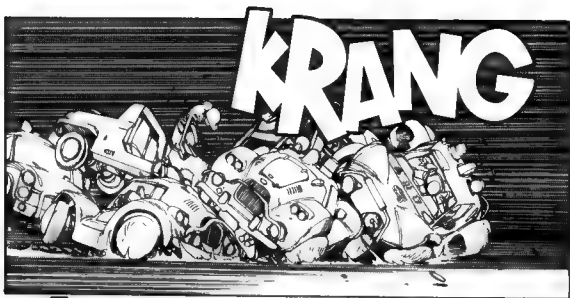
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HEY...

NOW!



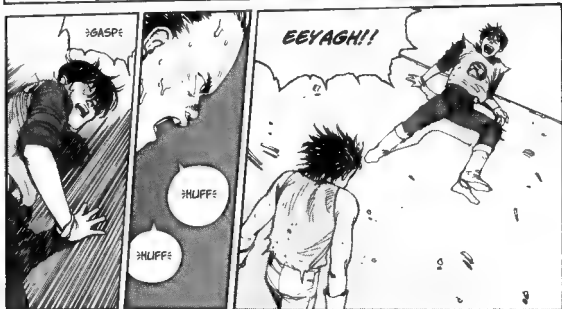
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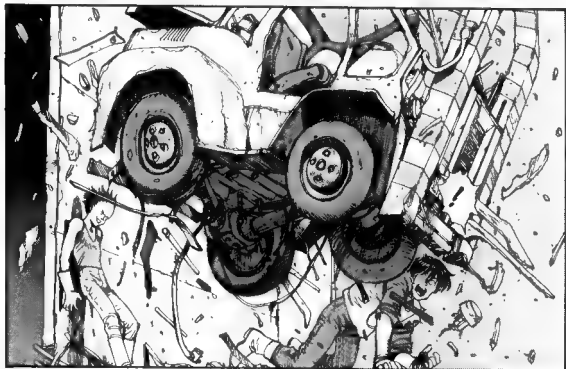
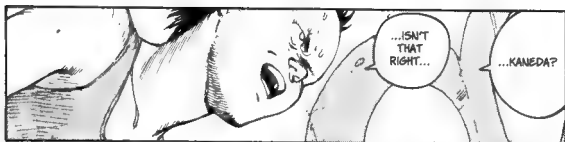


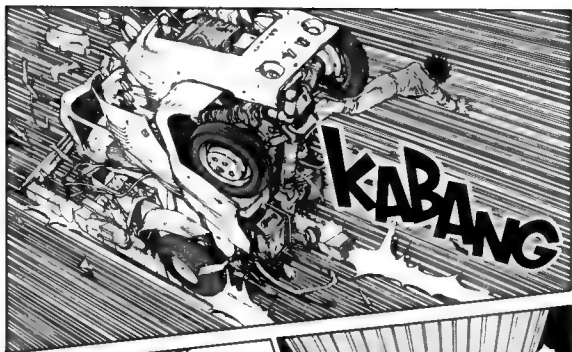


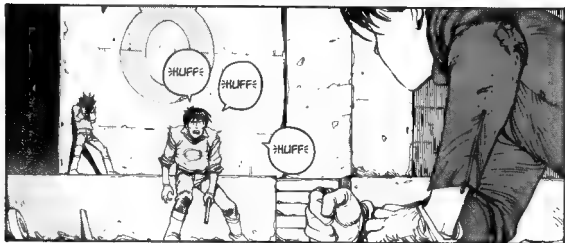
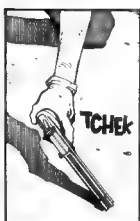






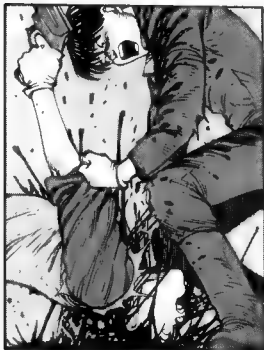
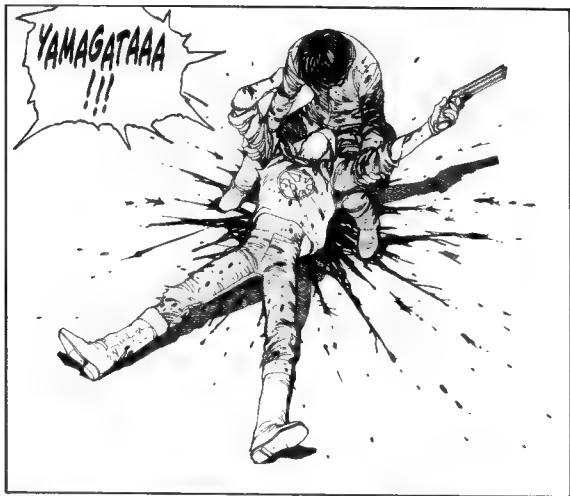


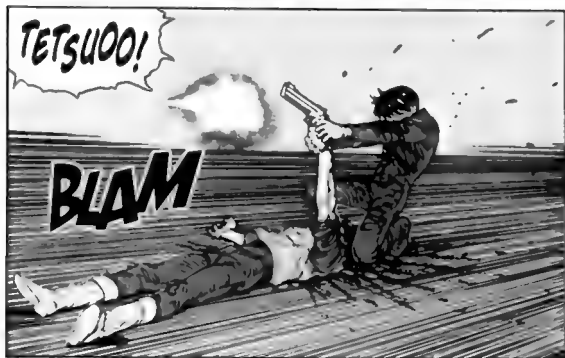


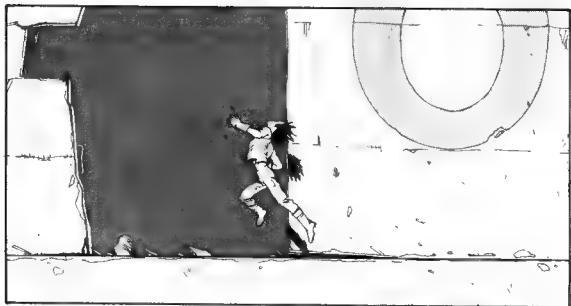


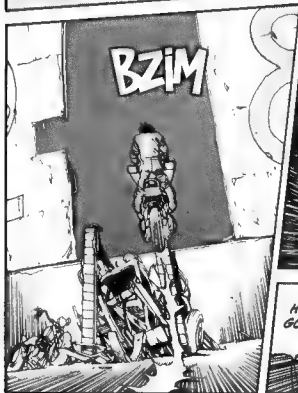


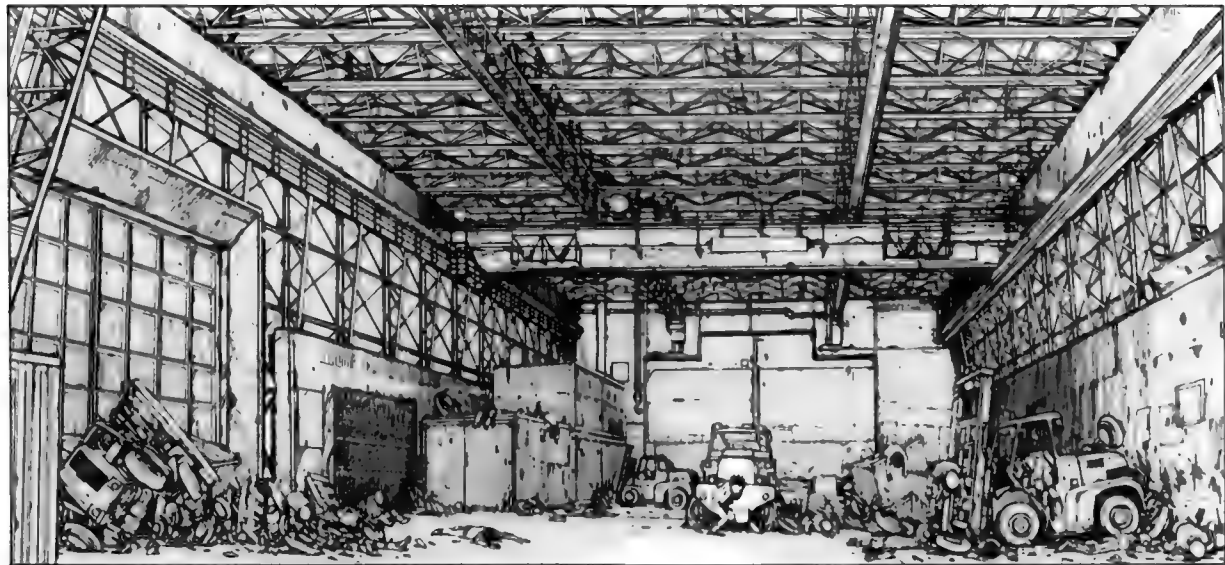


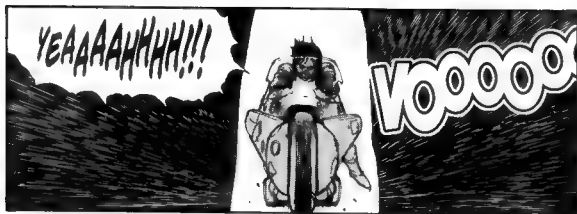






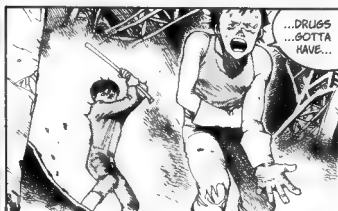
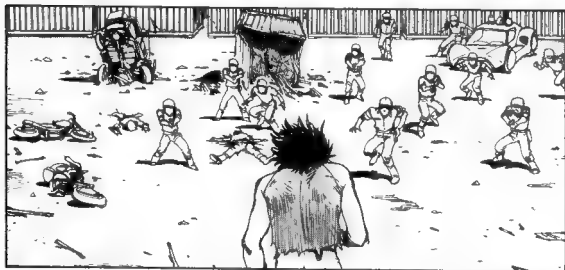
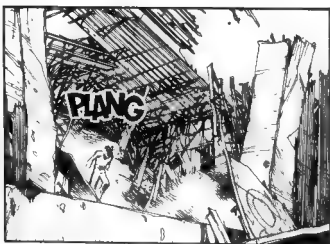






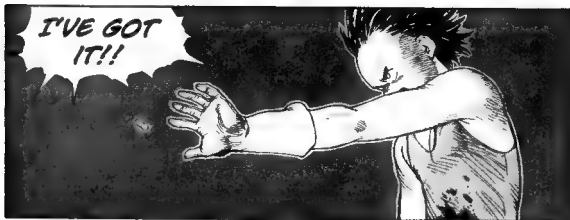










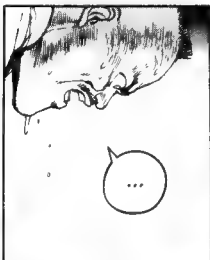
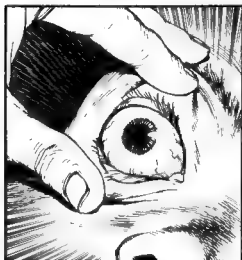


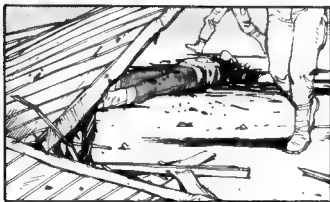


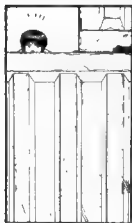














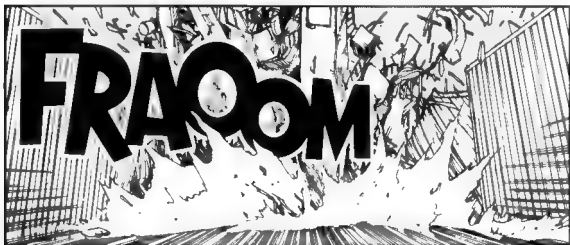
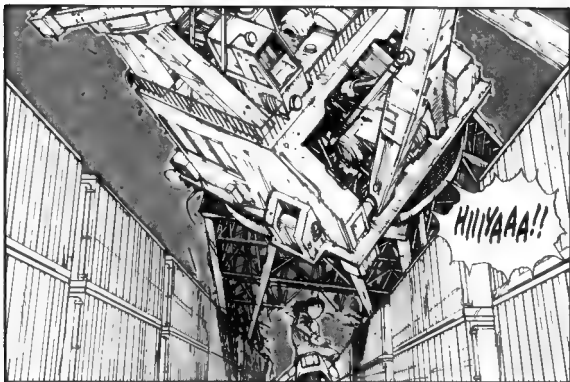






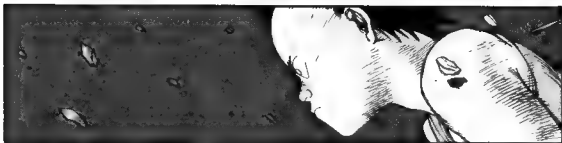
















KATSUHIRO OTOMO

Katsuhiro Otomo was born in 1954 in Japan's Miyagi Prefecture, a rural province some 300 miles northeast of Tokyo. While in high school, Otomo became, in his own words, "crazy about the movies." The young artist often travelled three hours by train just to see films, and the influence of cinema is a constant thread that runs through Otomo's work.

Soon after graduating high school, Otomo moved to Tokyo with the goal of becoming a comics artist. His first professional work was *Jyu-sai* (*A Gun Report*), an adaptation of the Prosper Mérimée novella *Mateo Falcone*, which appeared in the weekly magazine *Action*. Otomo went on to create a series of short stories, usually twenty to thirty pages, challenging works that captured widespread critical acclaim in Japan. A 1980 review in the *Asahi* newspaper said, "Just as the New Cinema movement had demolished the old style of Hollywood filmmaking to usher in a fresh style of movie production in America, Katsuhiro Otomo... came to Tokyo to create a new comics style and shattered the conventions existing in manga."

In 1979, publication began on Otomo's first serialized work, *Fireball*, a story built around a "man versus computer" theme. Though the series was never completed, *Fireball* marked the beginning of Otomo's interest in science-fiction themes and was the forerunner of future work that would define his comics career and firmly establish him internationally as one of the acknowledged masters of the comics medium. *Damu*, first serialized in 1980 and collected in 1983, became a bestseller and was the first manga to win the coveted Science Fiction Grand Prix Award, Japan's equivalent to America's Nebula Award. The media

attention gained from this landmark achievement made Otomo one of the best-known comics authors in Japan. Critics raved about *Damu*, a story that combined terrifying paranormal genre elements with poignant observation of urban life in modern Japan. From the *Yomiuri* newspaper: "The weirdness that lurks in the seemingly peaceful living environment of a huge housing complex symbolizes the precariousness hidden at the bottom of today's living conditions in Japan."

Upon completion of *Damu*, Otomo began work on *Akira*, a two-thousand-plus-page epic of staggering illustrative virtuosity and gut-wrenching thematic power. Ten years in the making and eventually collected in six volumes, *Akira* went on to win every possible award and spawned video games, an animated feature film directed by Otomo himself — compared favorably by critics to science-fiction masterpieces such as *Blade Runner* and *A Clockwork Orange* — and a blizzard of merchandise. *Akira* has been published in virtually every language and stands not only as one of the crown jewels of manga, but is regarded by many as the finest work of graphic fiction ever created, anywhere. While the completion of *Akira* marked the beginning of Otomo's moving away from comics — his only major comics work since *Akira* has been the writing of *The Legend of Mother Sarah* — it began his odyssey as a filmmaker. After completion of the animated *Akira*, Otomo has gone on to work on a variety of animated films, including *Labyrinth Stories*, *Robot Carnival*, *Roujin Z*, *Spirigan*, and *Memories*, an anthology of adaptations of earlier Otomo comics stories. Otomo also directed the live-action *World Apartment Horror* as well as television commercials for Honda, Suntory, and Canon. Otomo lives and works in Tokyo.



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Katsuhiro Otomo's stunning science-fiction masterpiece is considered by many to be the finest work of graphic fiction ever produced, inspiring Otomo's brilliant *Akira* animated film, regarded worldwide as **A TIMELESS CLASSIC**.

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AKIRA

1

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AKIRA

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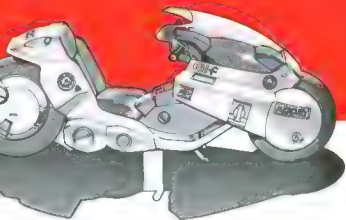
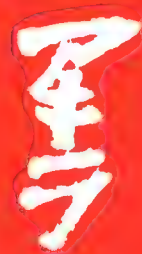
KATSUHIRO OTOMO





AKIRA

KATSUHIRO OTOMO



**BOOK
ONE**

Translated by **Yoko Umezawa**

YOKO UMEZAWA, LINDA M. YORK,
and **JO DUFFY**

Edited by **David Schmitz**

DAVID SCHMITZ for **DIGIBOX**
and **ÉDITIONS GLÉNAT**

Designed by **Digital Chameleon**

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Art director:

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AKIRA BOOK ONE

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AKIRA

KATSUHIRO OTOMO

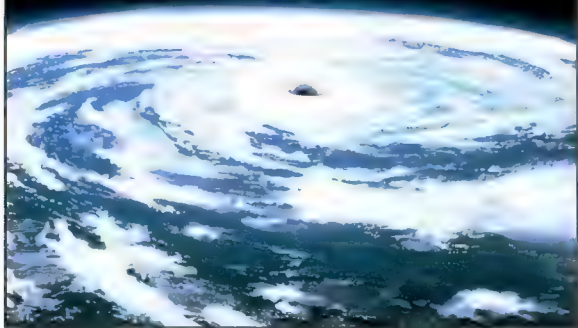


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ONE**



DARK HORSE COMICS®

**AT 2:17 P.M. ON DECEMBER 6TH, 1992,
A NEW TYPE OF BOMB EXPLODED OVER
THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF JAPAN.**



AKIRA

BY KATSUHIRO OTOMO



AKIRA

2

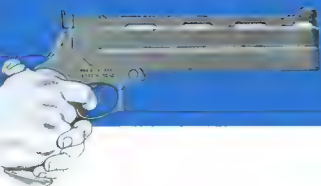
KATSUHIRO OTOMO





AKIRA

KATSUHIRO OTOMO



**BOOK
TWO**


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MARK COX



AKIRA BOOK TWO

THE STORY SO FAR

His child years offer a sobering portrait

When Akira was born, his father was a doctor, his mother a nurse. They were both part of the medical profession, and Akira was born into a family of doctors. His father was a doctor, his mother a nurse. They were both part of the medical profession, and Akira was born into a family of doctors.

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MASARU



KIYOKO



JOKER



NIZU



YAMAGATA

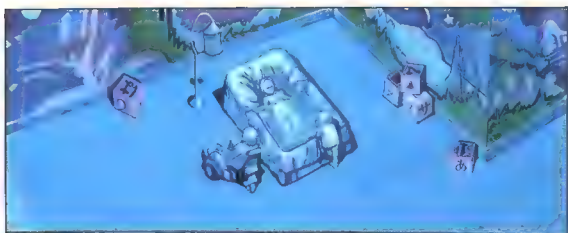
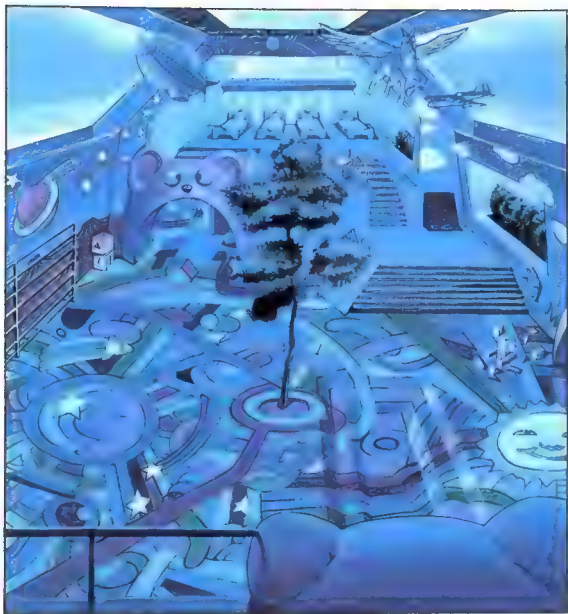


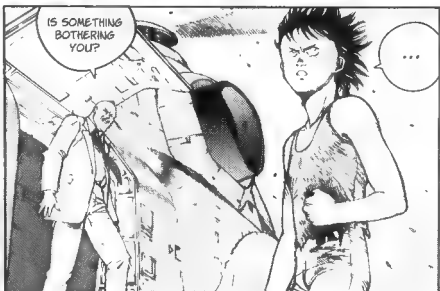
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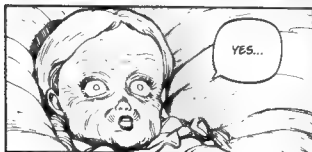
AKIRA

BY KATSUHIRO OTOMO

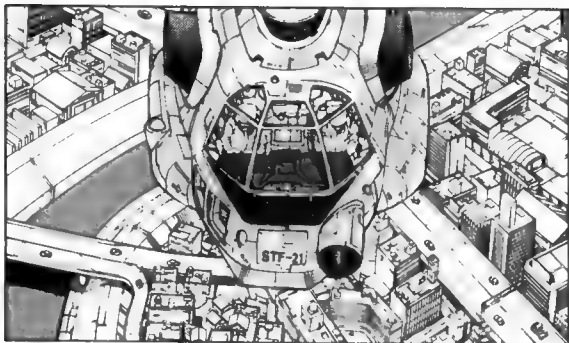


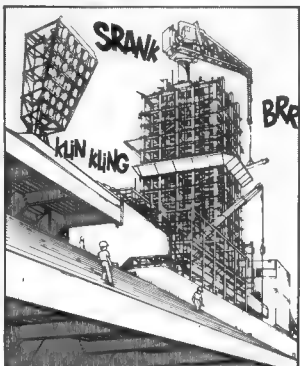
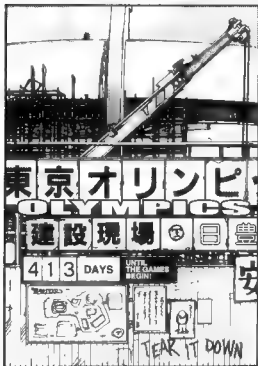
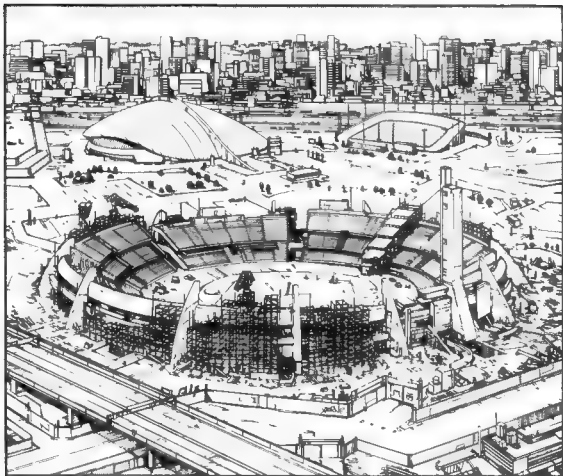


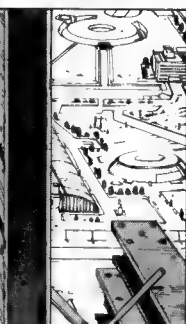
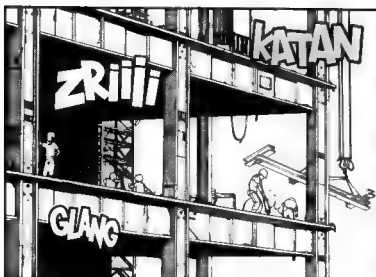


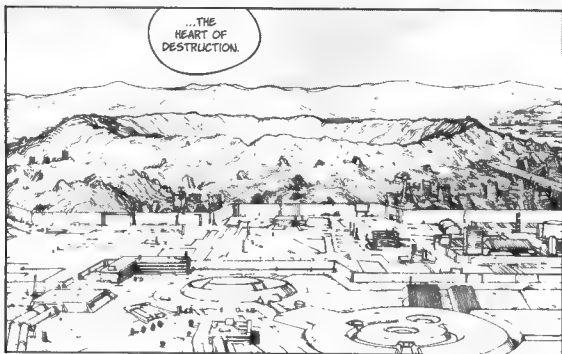
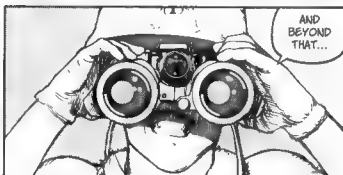
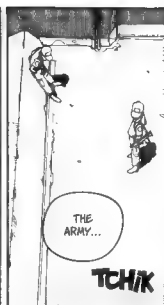
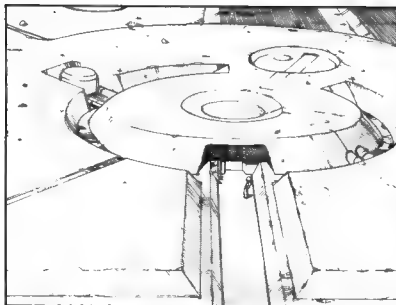


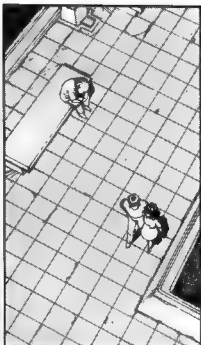
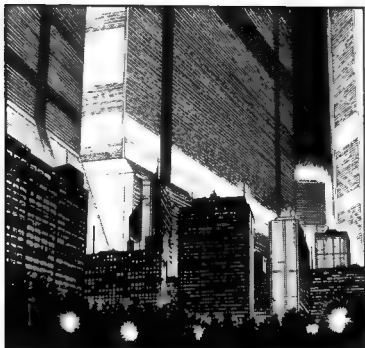


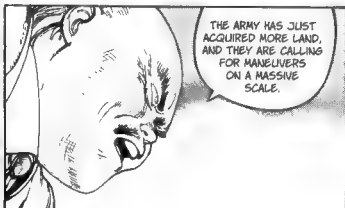
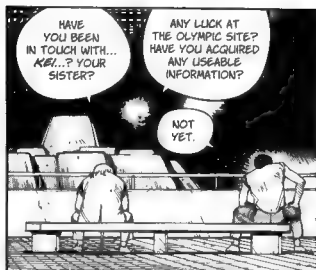


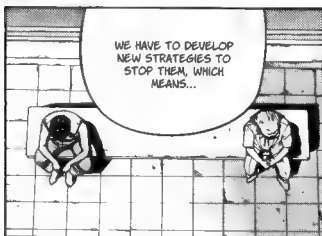
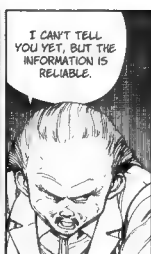


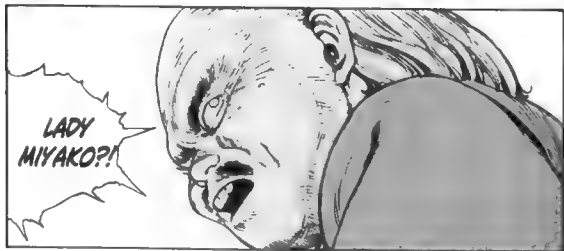
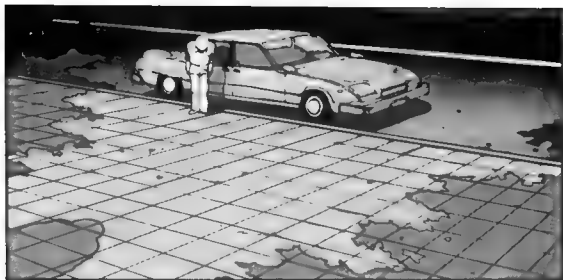


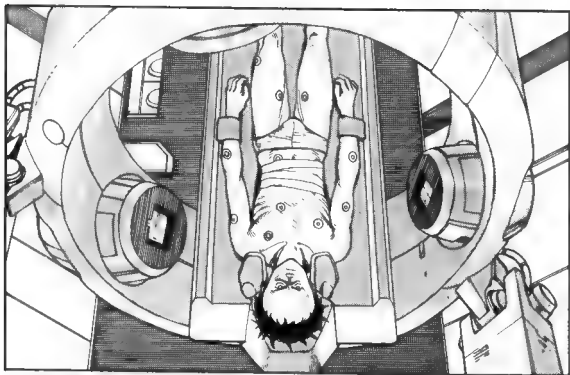




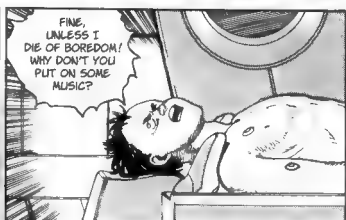








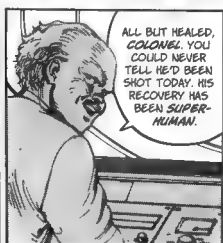
HOW
ARE YOU
FEELING,
TETSUO?



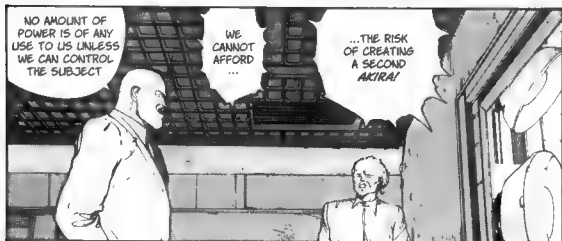
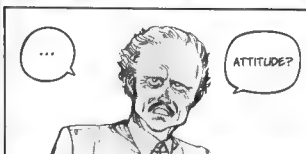
FINE,
UNLESS I
DIE OF BOREDOM!
WHY DON'T YOU
PUT ON SOME
MUSIC?

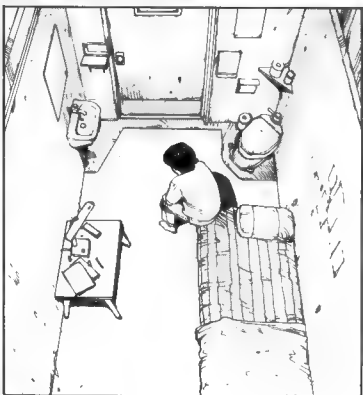
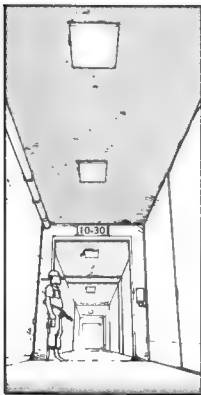
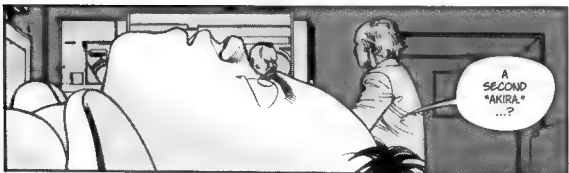
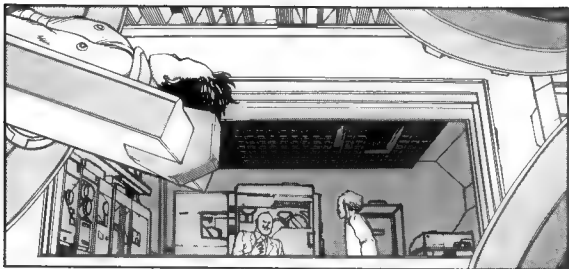


HIS
INJURIES,
DOCTOR?

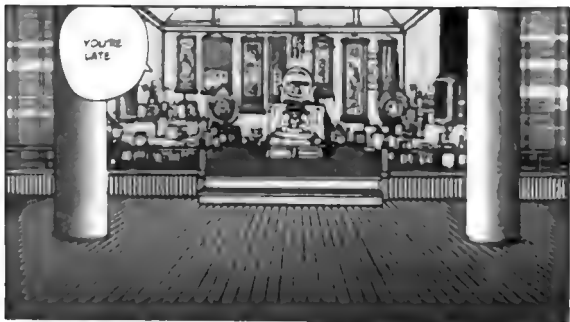
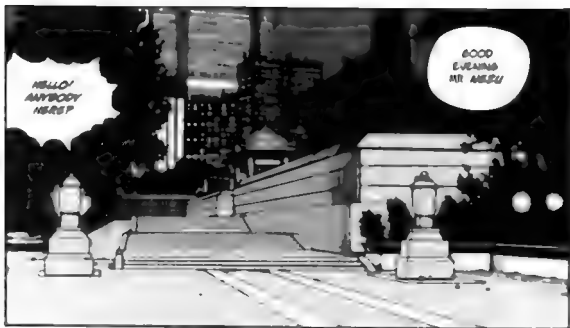


ALL BUT HEALED,
COLONEL. YOU
COULD NEVER
TELL HE'D BEEN
SHOT TODAY. HIS
RECOVERY HAS
BEEN SUPER-
HUMAN.



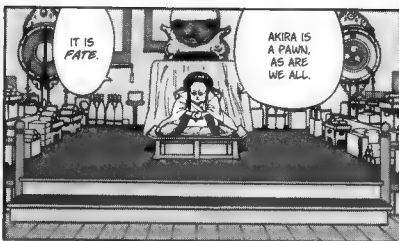


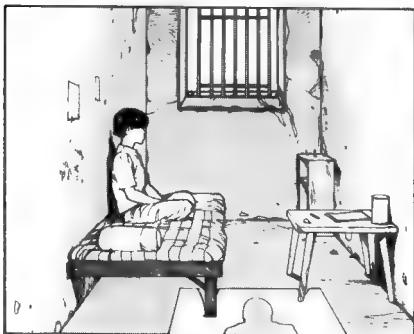
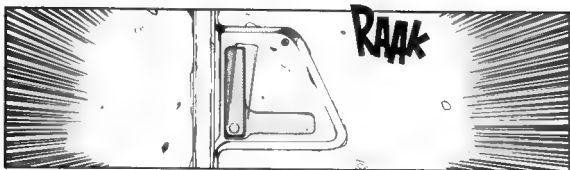


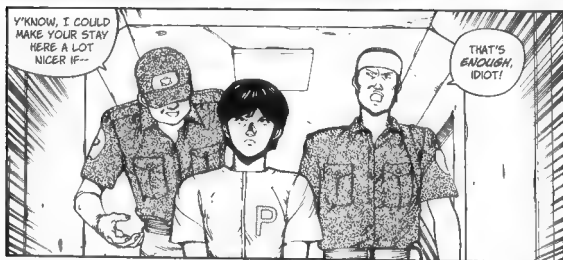


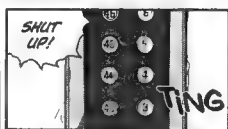
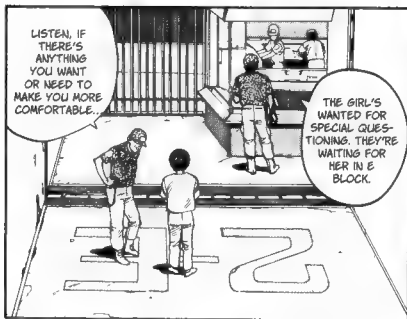


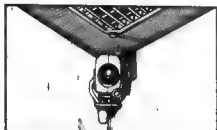






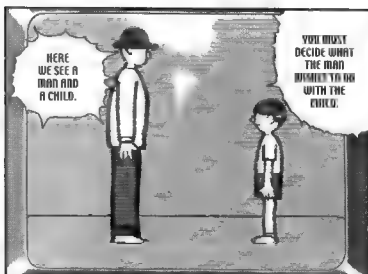


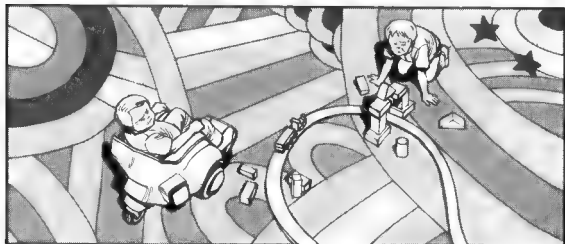
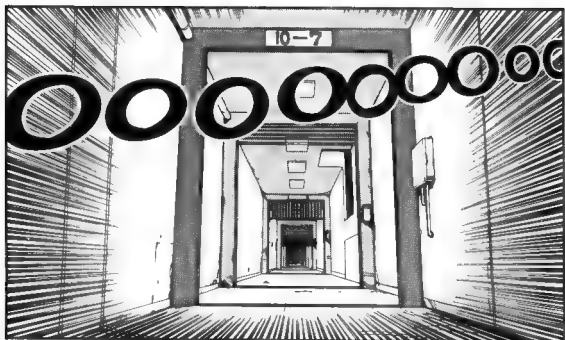




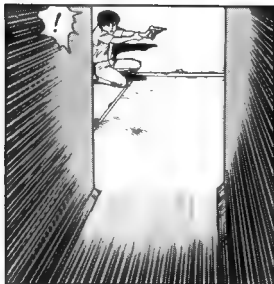




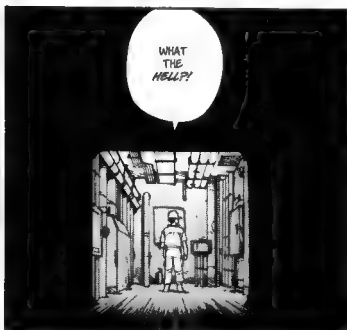
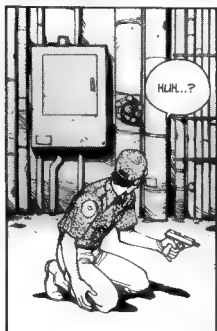






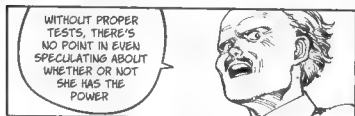


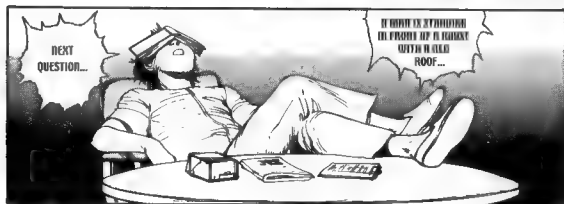


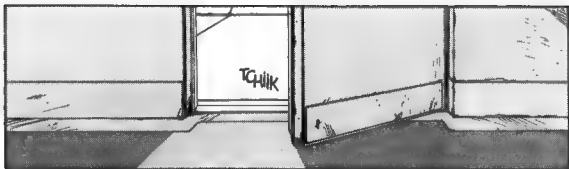






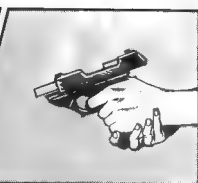


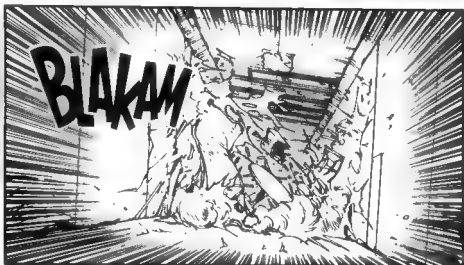


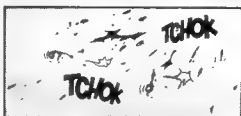
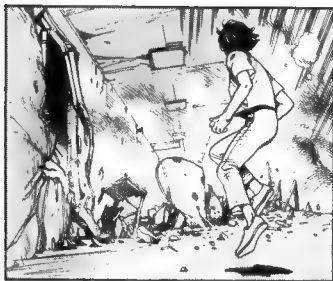


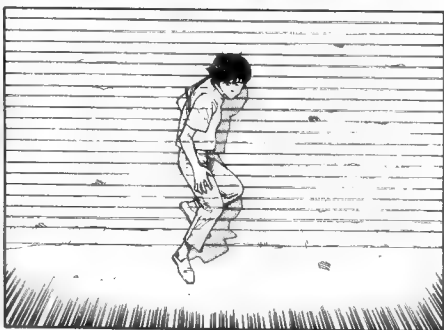
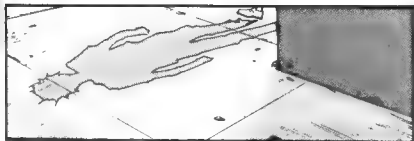
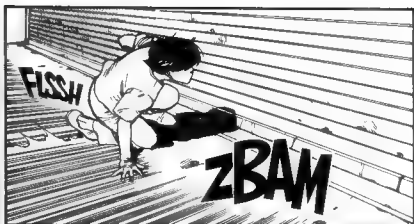
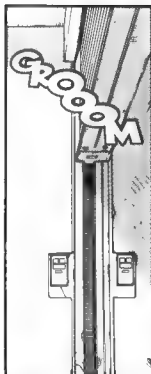


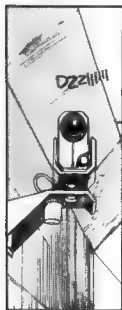
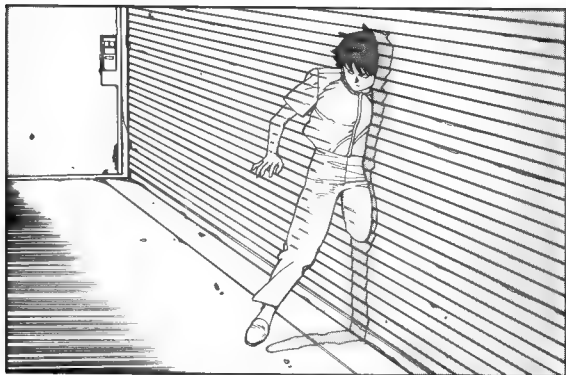


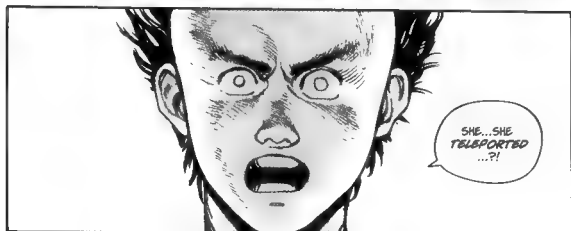


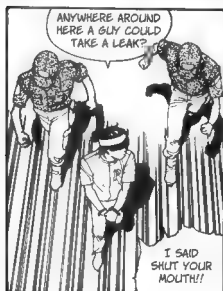
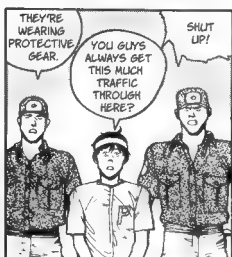
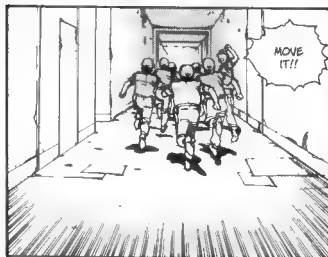
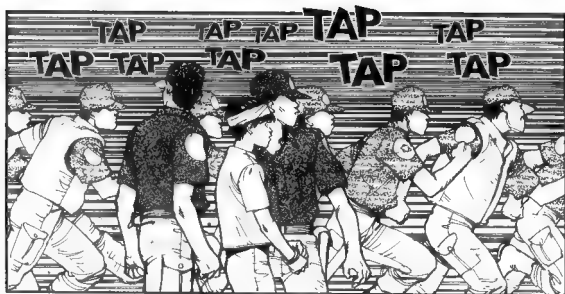


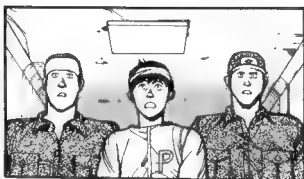
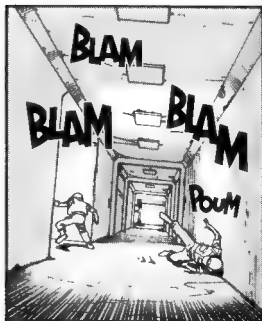


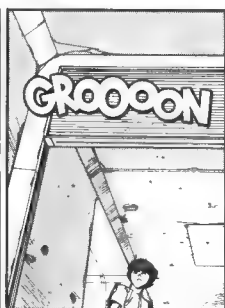






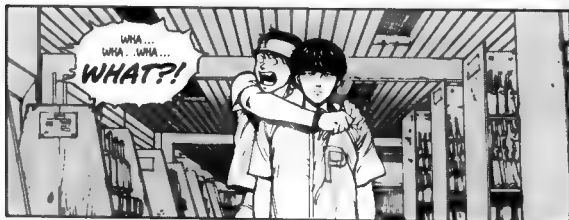


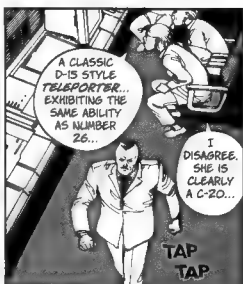
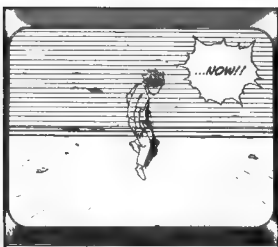


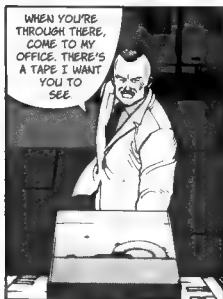
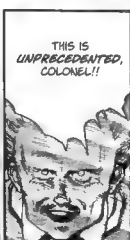
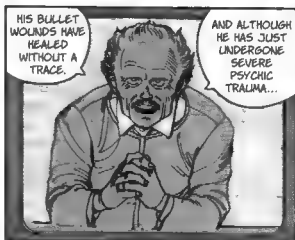


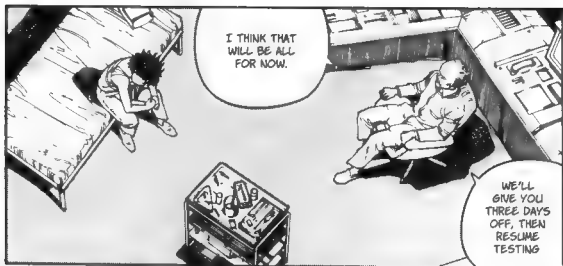


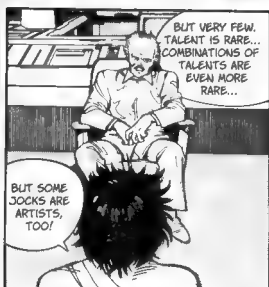


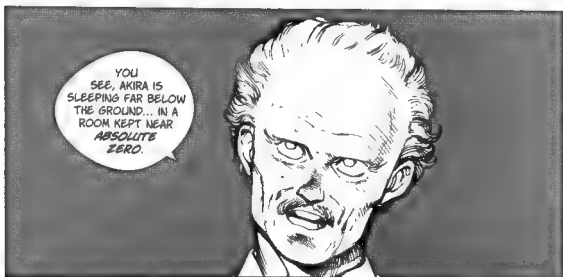




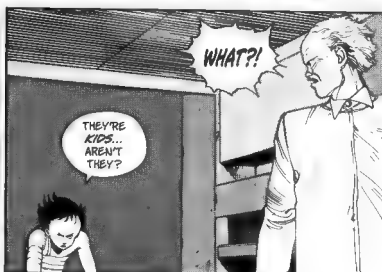




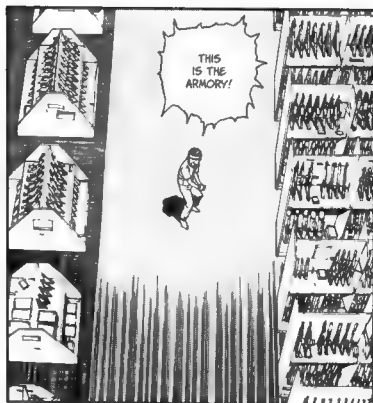


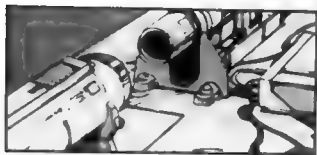


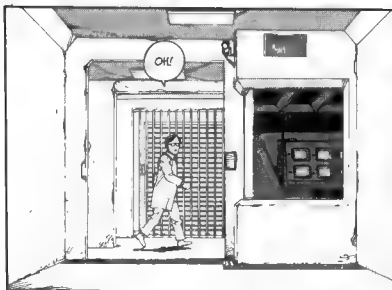
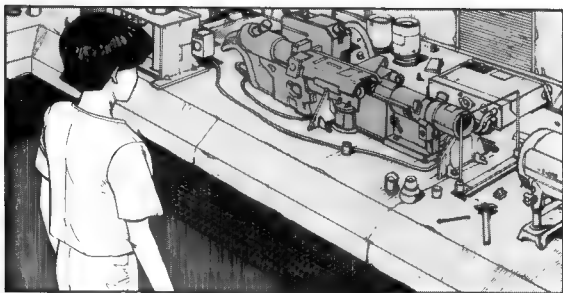


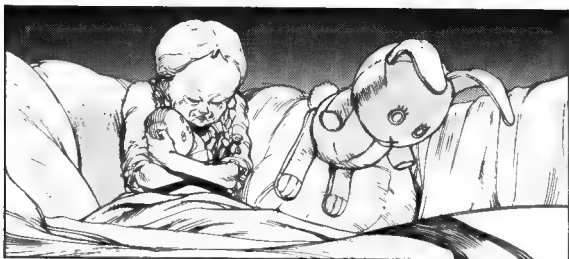
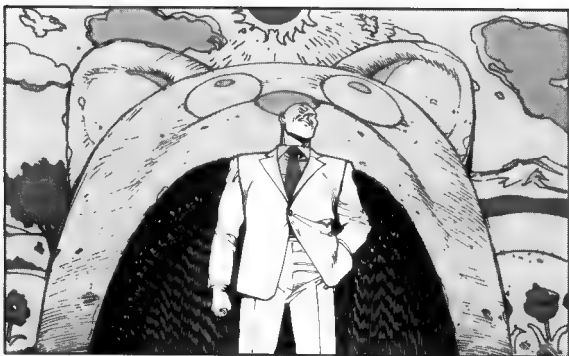


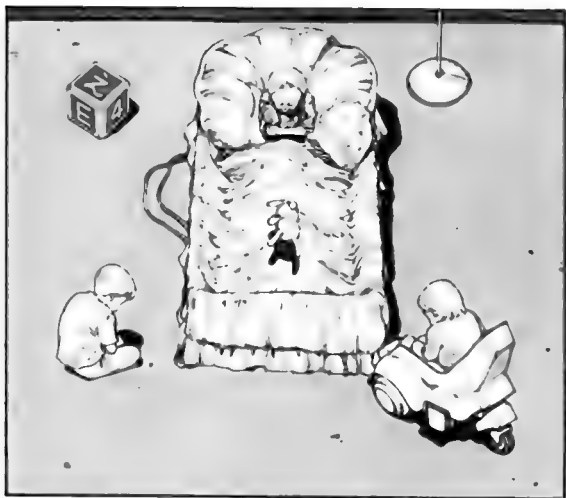


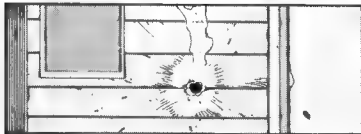
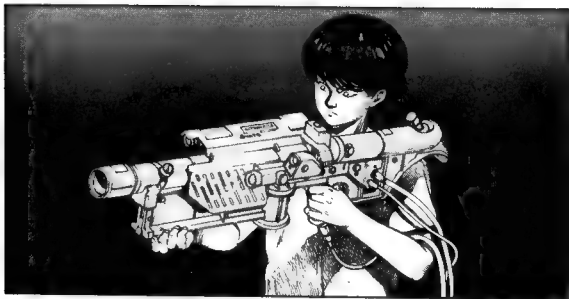


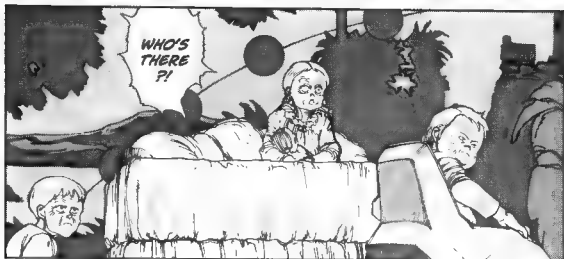




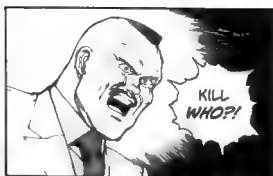
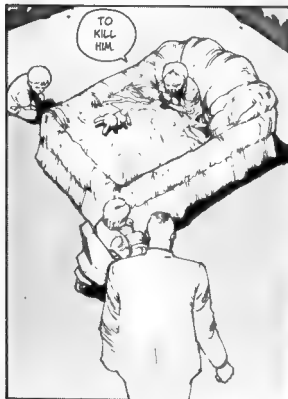


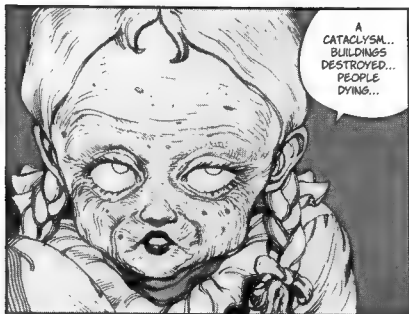
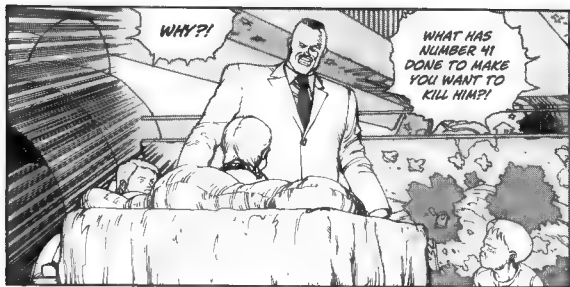










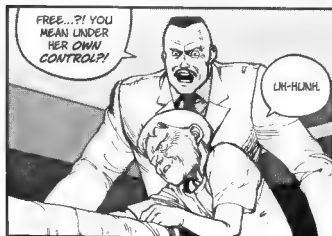
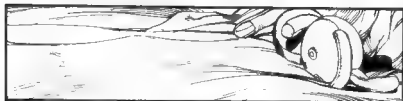


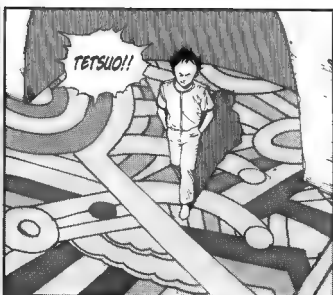




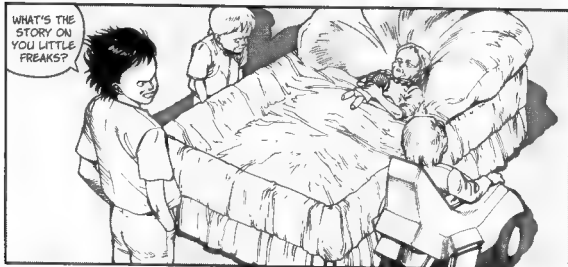


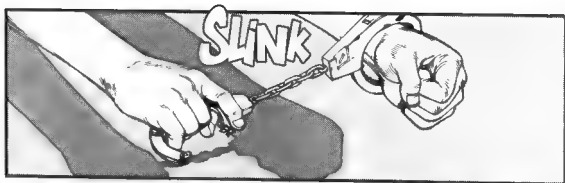






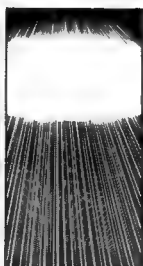
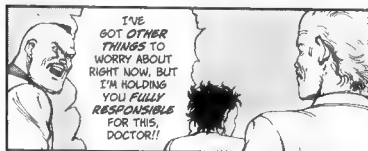
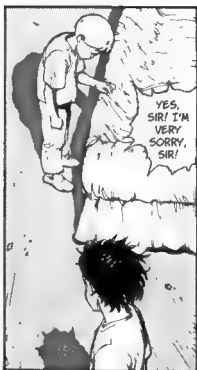




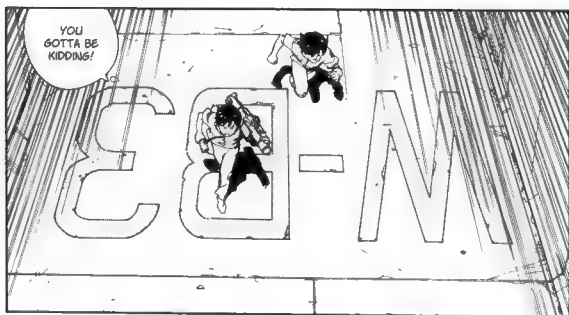








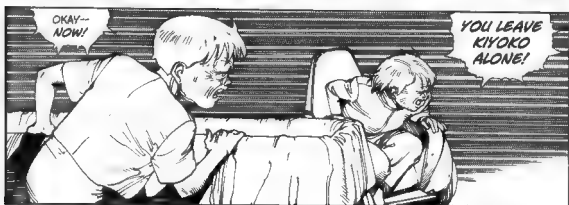








SHOOOF

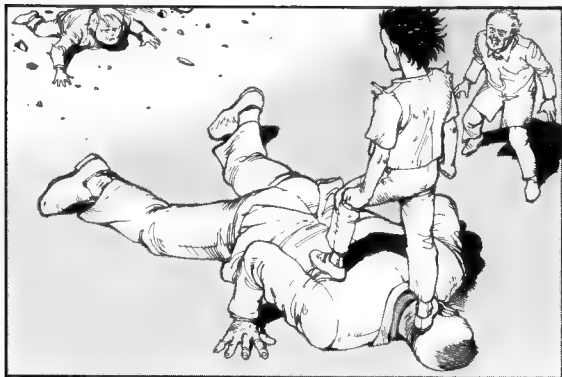
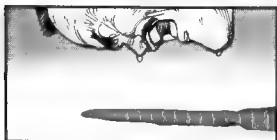


YOU LEAVE
KIYOKO
ALONE!

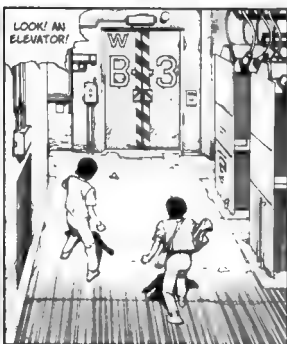
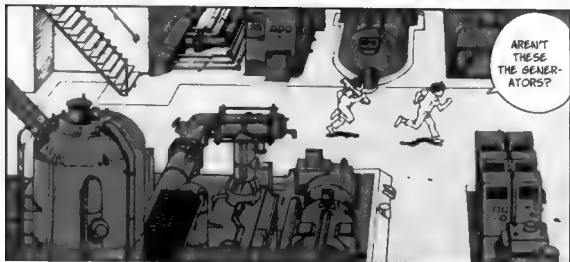


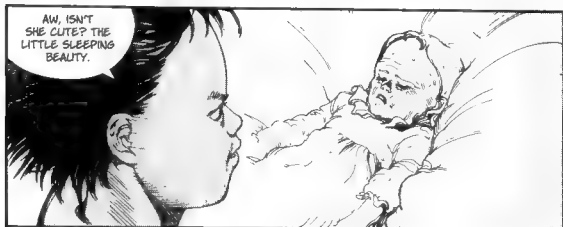


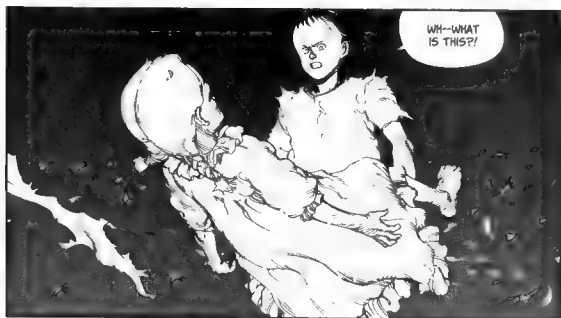


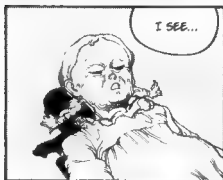
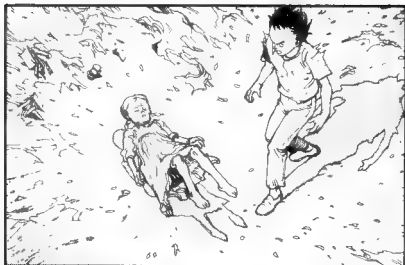




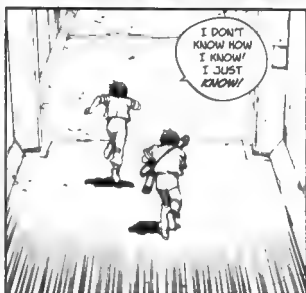
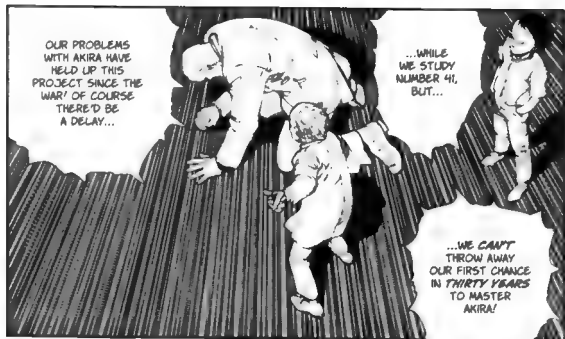


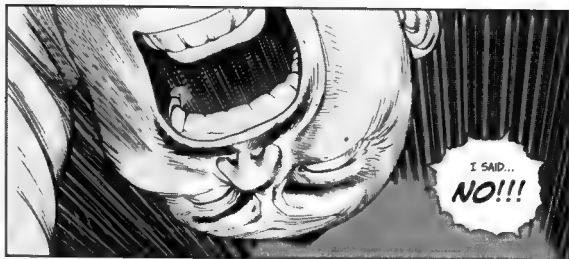




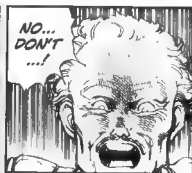
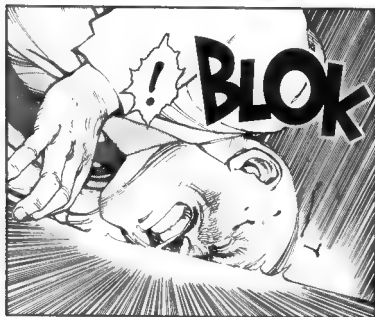


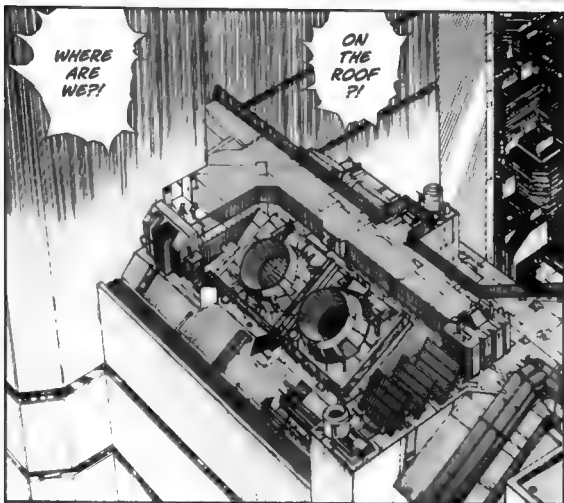


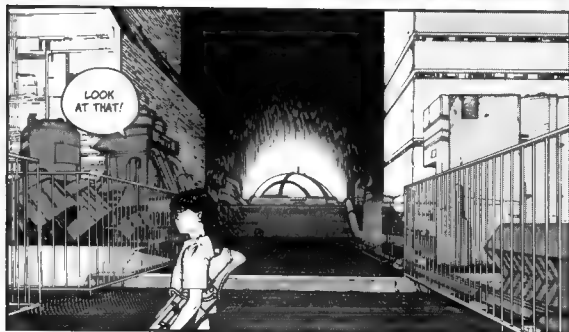


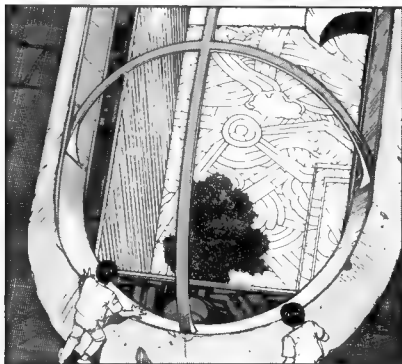
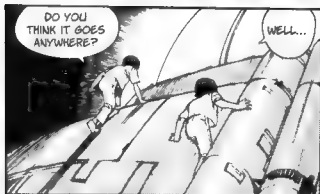
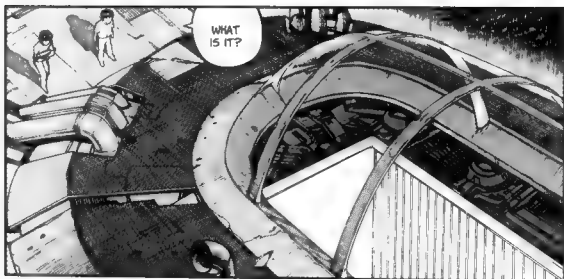


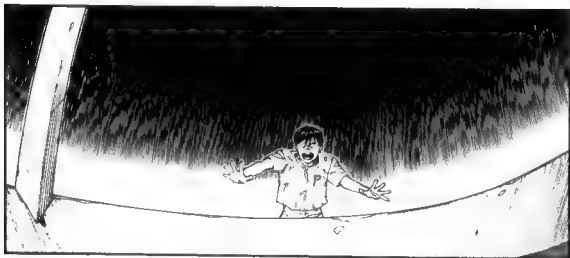
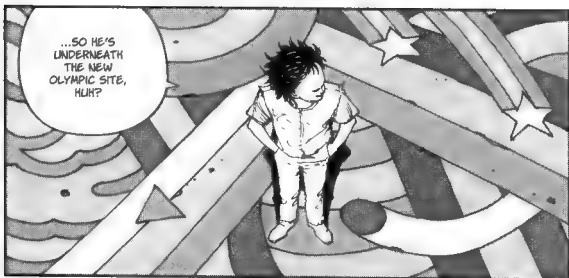


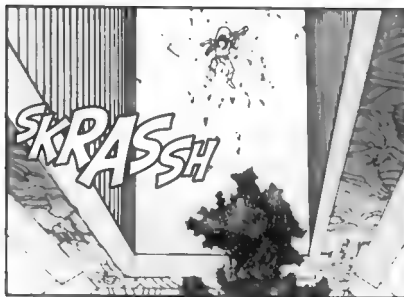
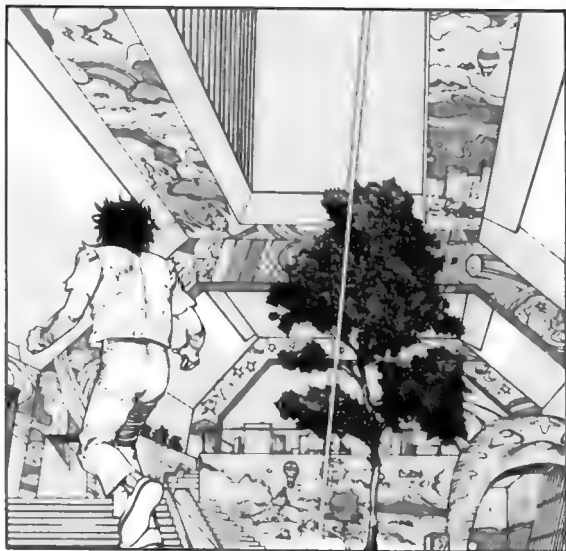




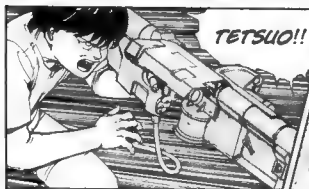


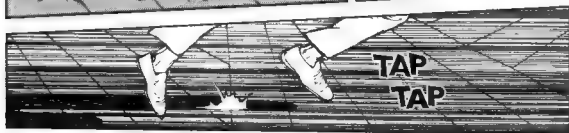


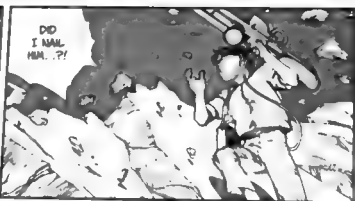








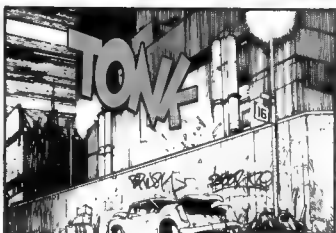


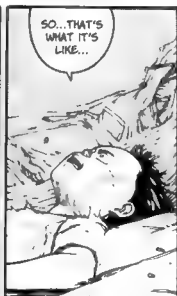




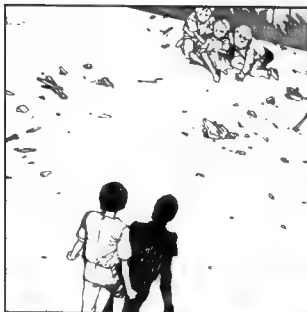












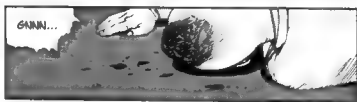
IT WAS
YOU, WASN'T
IT? YOU WERE
GUIDING ME
HERE!



UHN...



OH, CRAP! IT'S
THAT SKINHEAD
DUDE AGAIN!

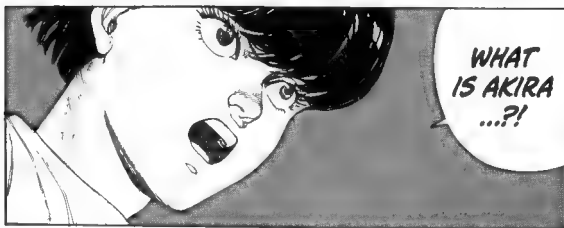


GANN...



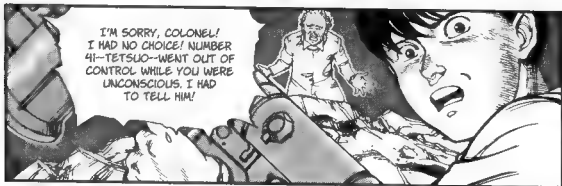
HE'S BAD
NEWS—WE
GOTTA RUN!
NOW!!

NOT
YET...

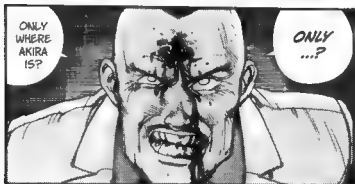


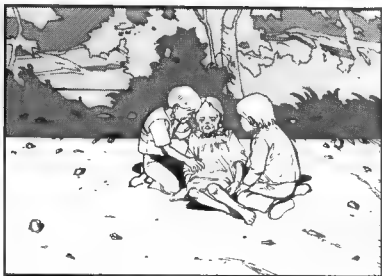
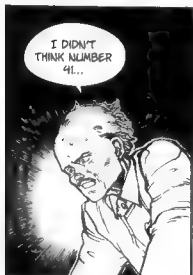


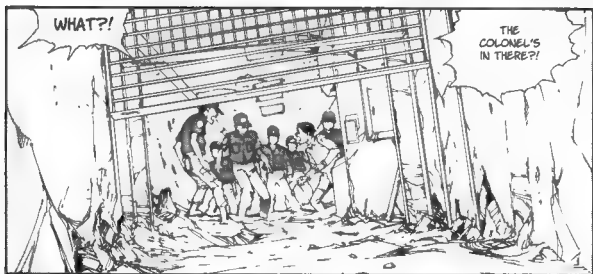
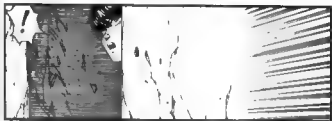


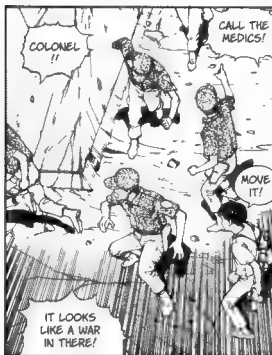


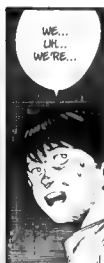
...HE HAD
THE POWER
TO REACH
HIM.

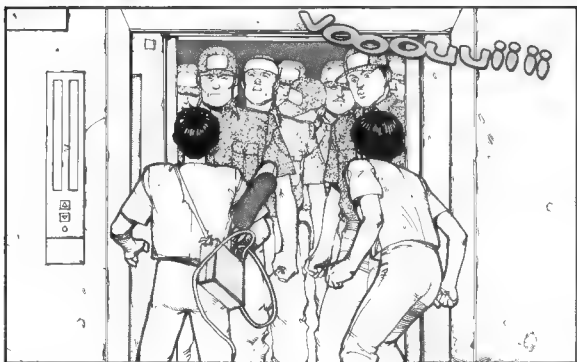
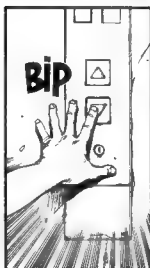


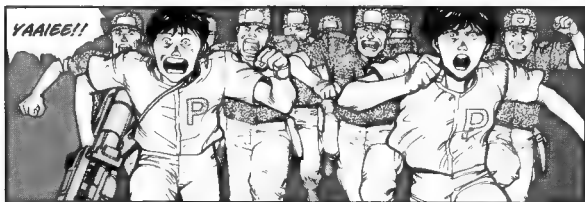




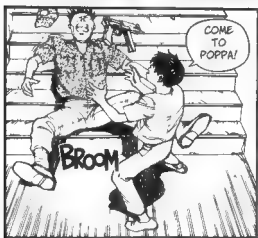
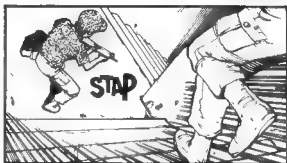


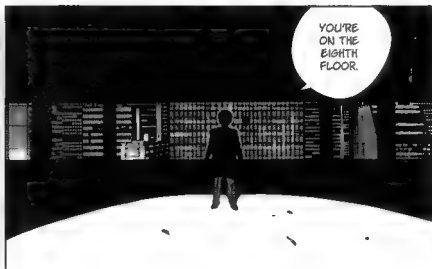
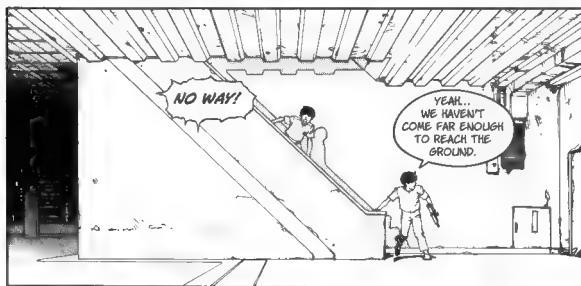
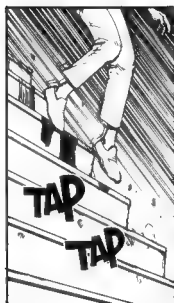






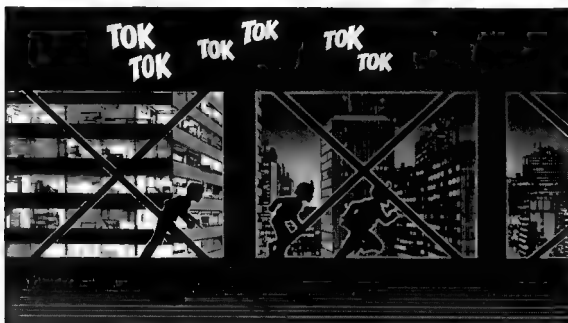


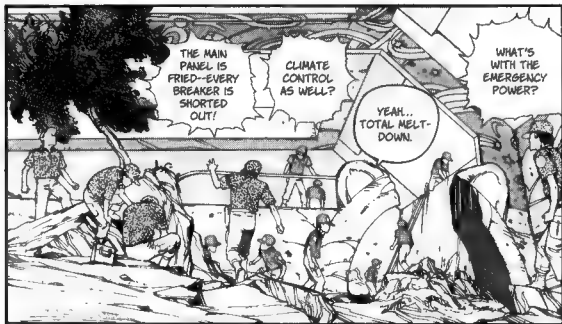


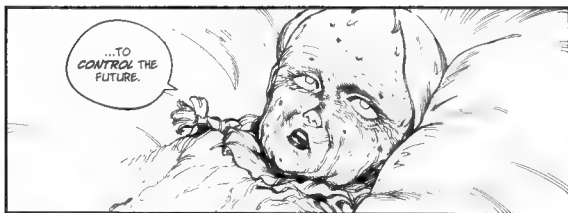


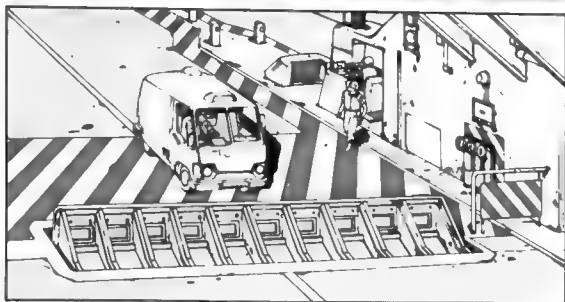
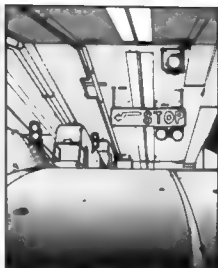
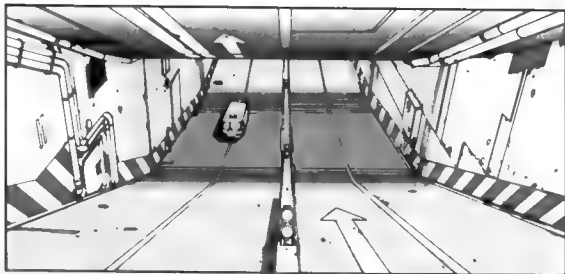


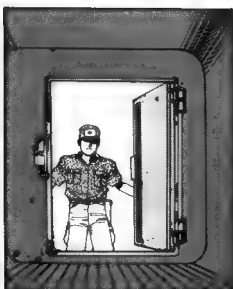
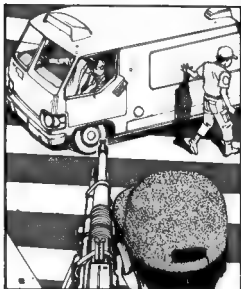


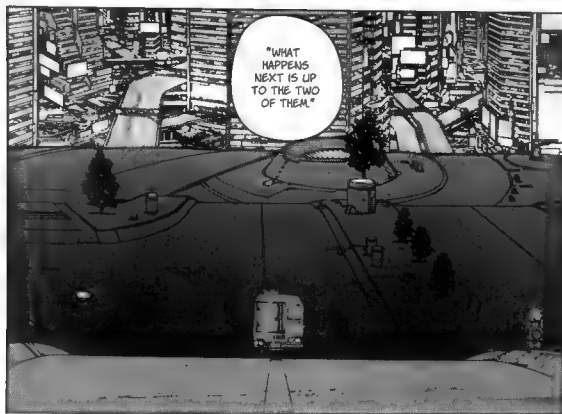
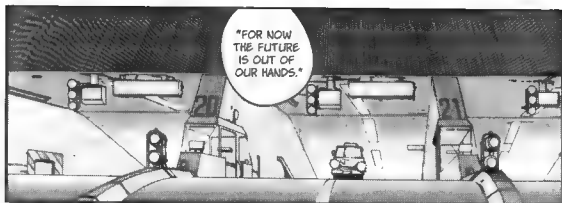


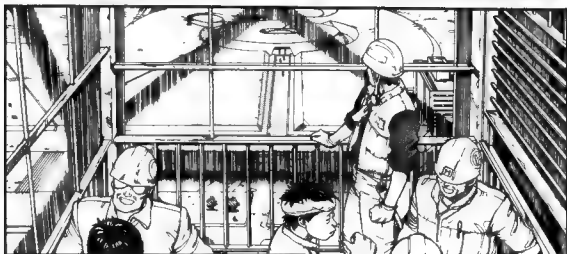
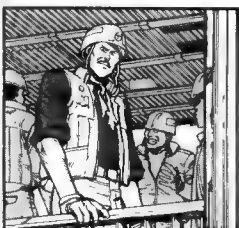
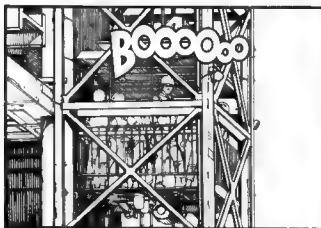


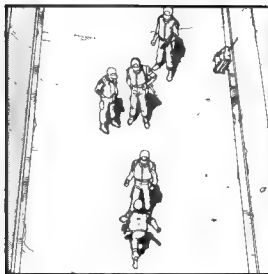
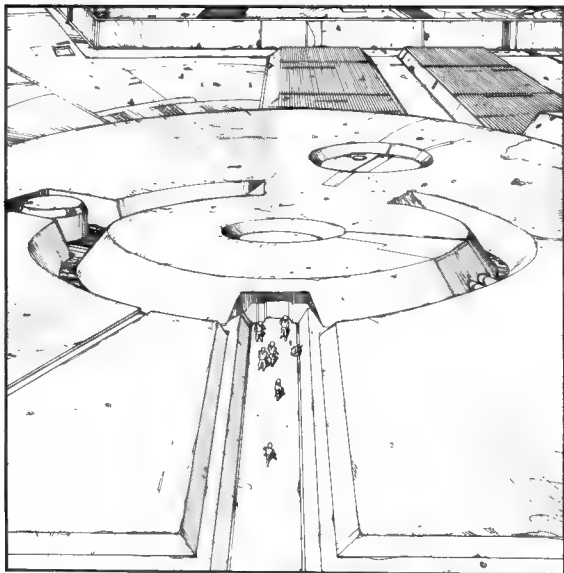


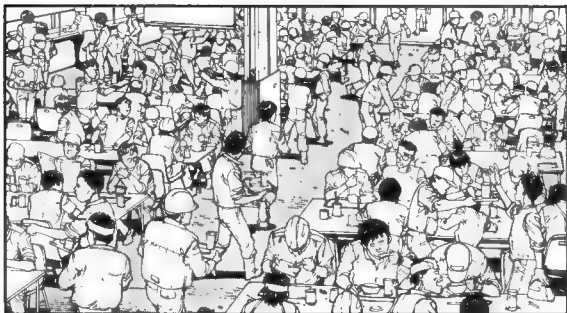


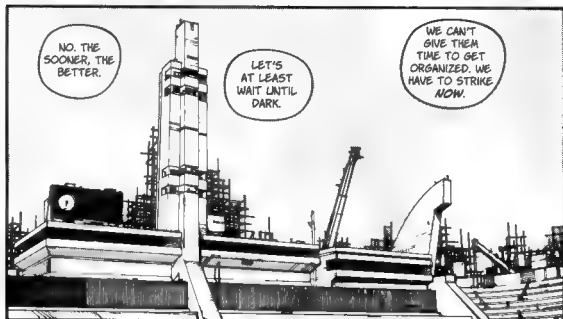


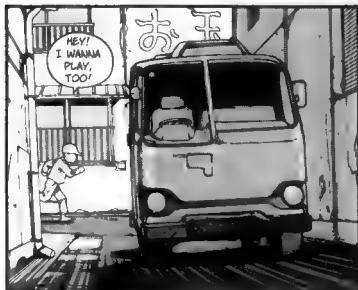








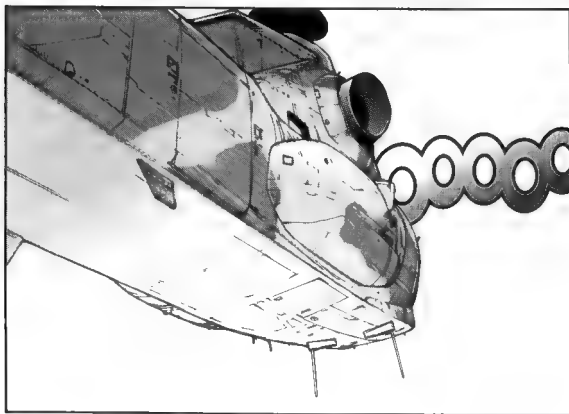




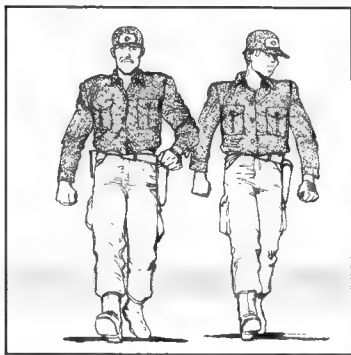
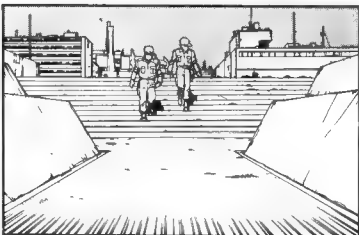
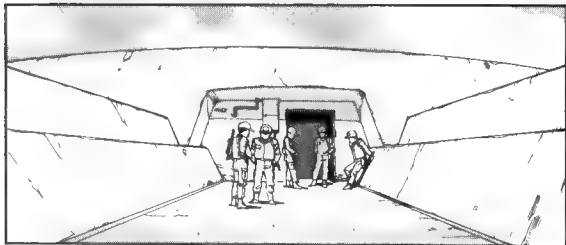


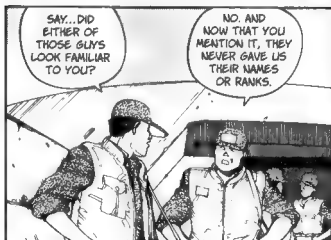
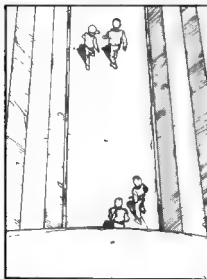


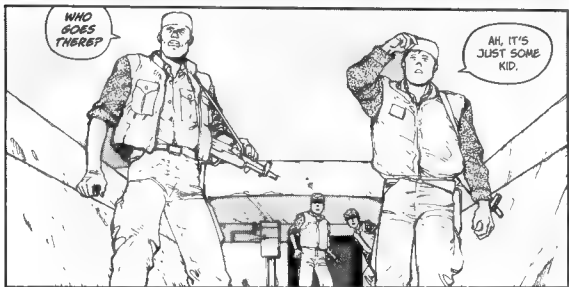
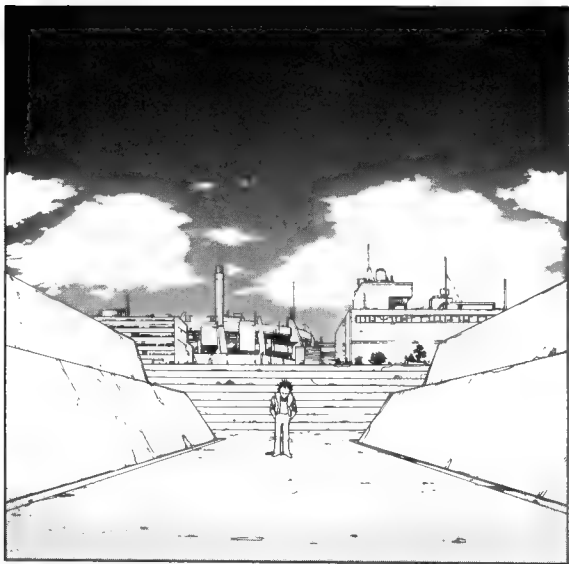


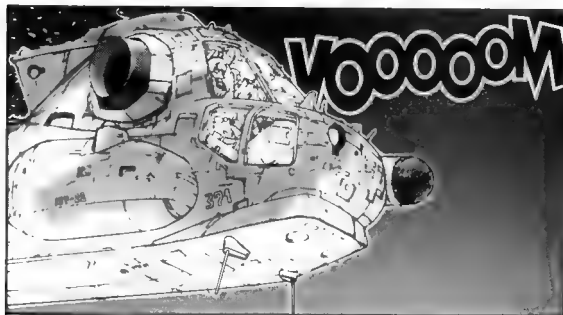


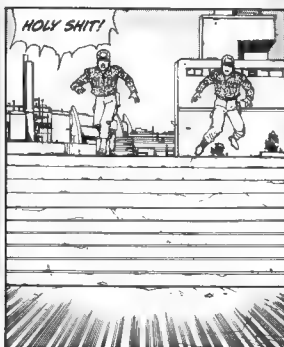
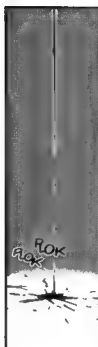
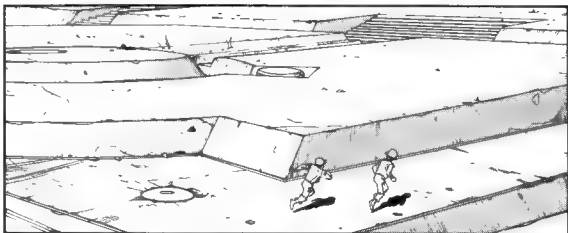


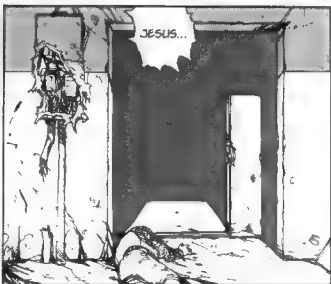
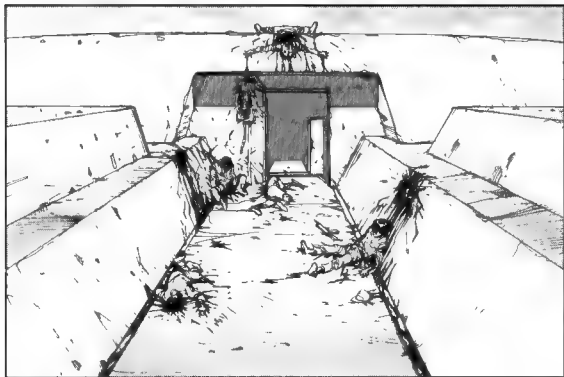


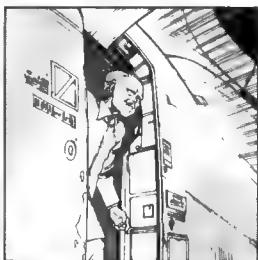
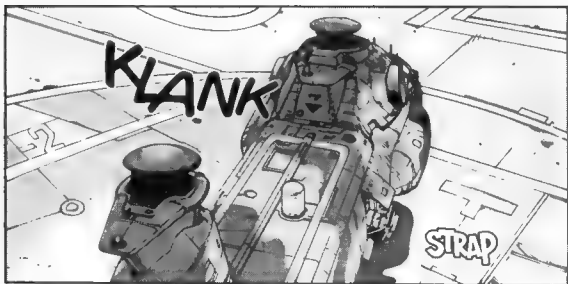


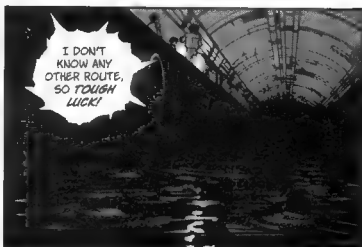
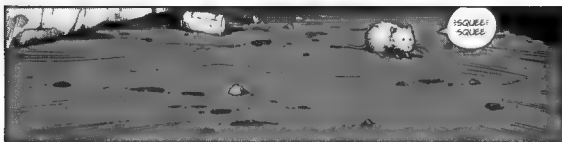


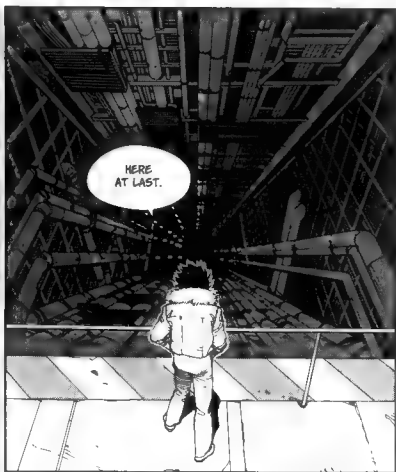
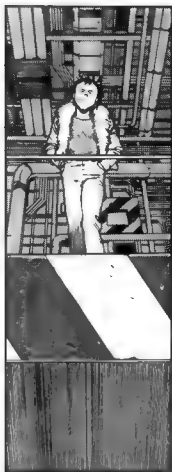
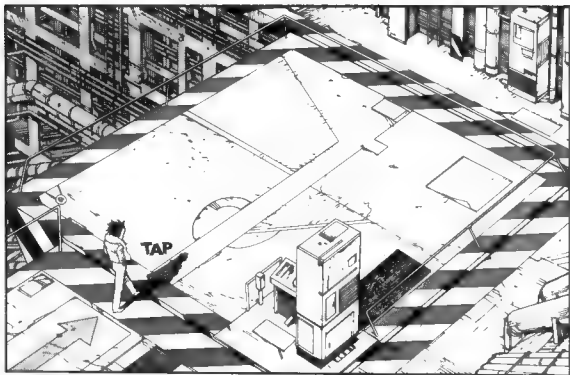


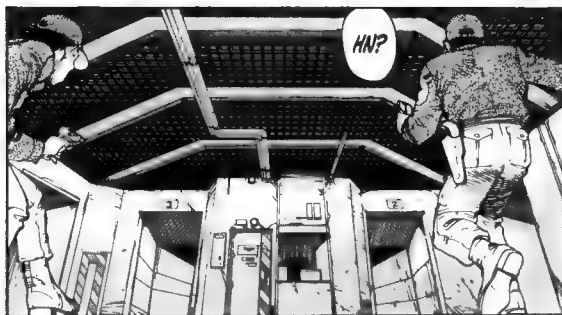


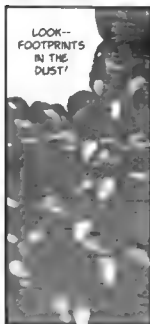


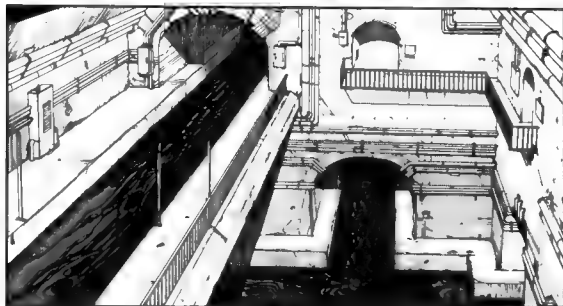
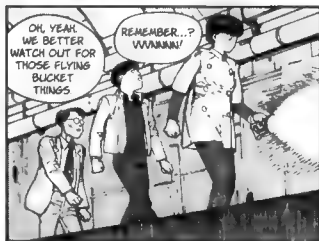


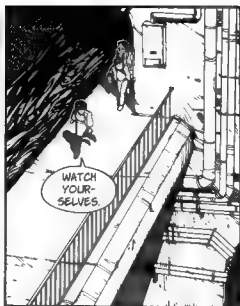


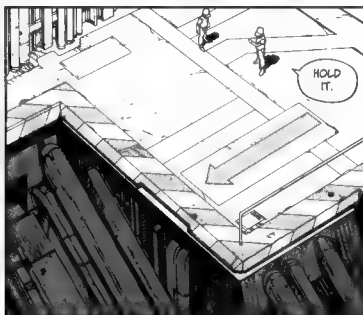
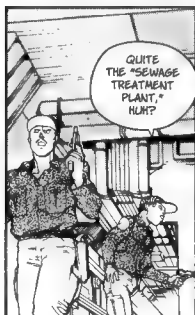
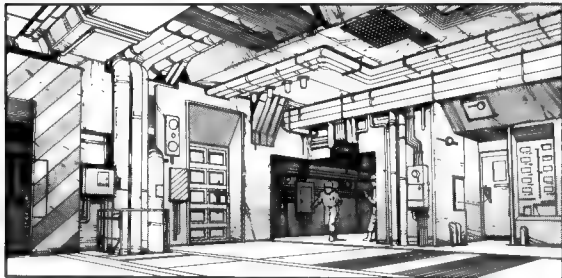


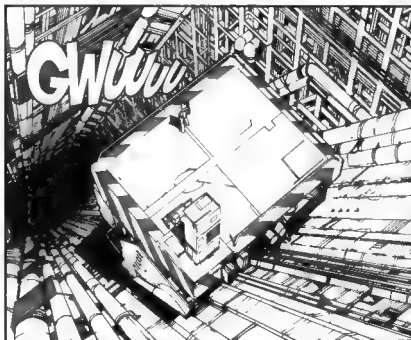
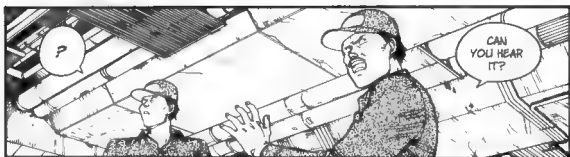




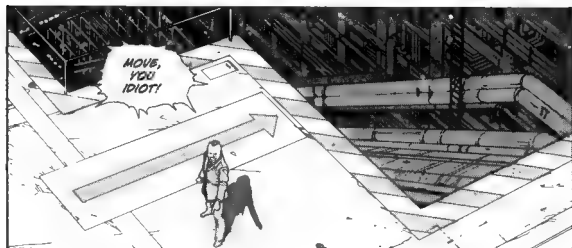
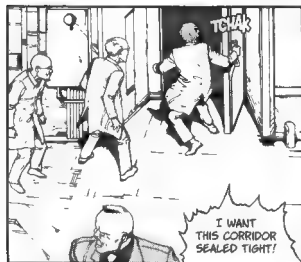




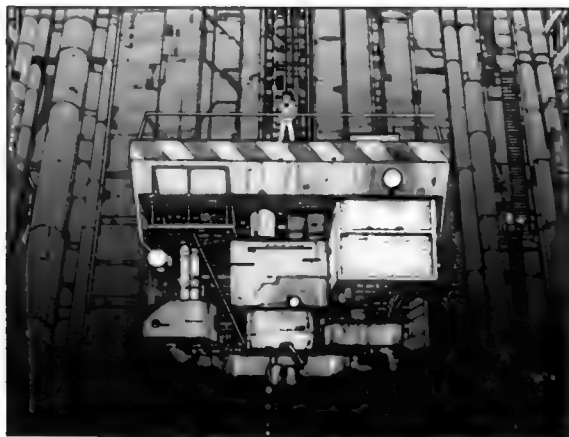
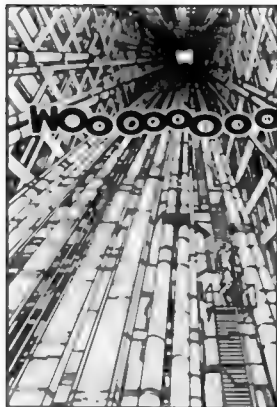


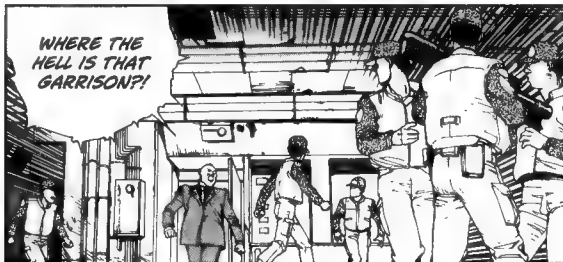
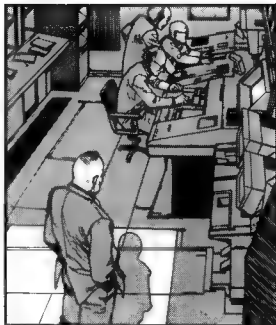


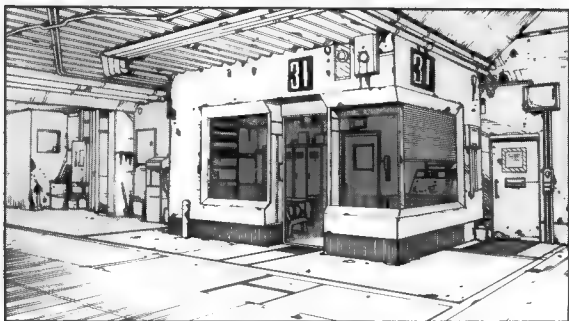
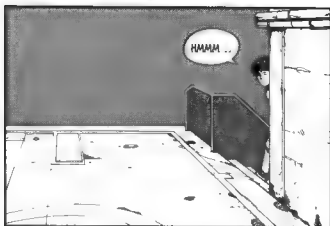
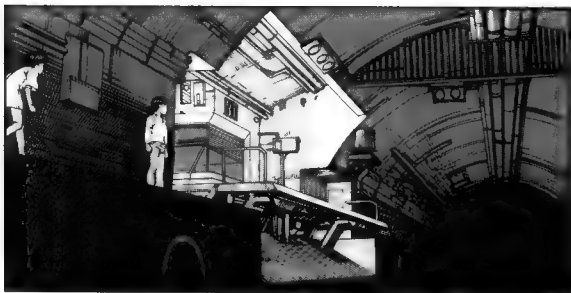


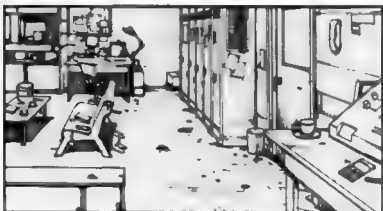






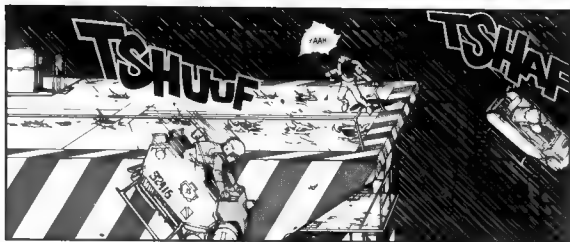




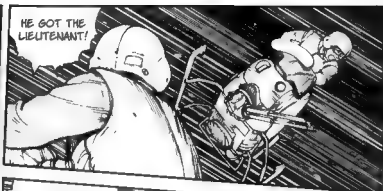


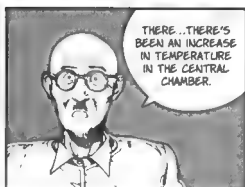
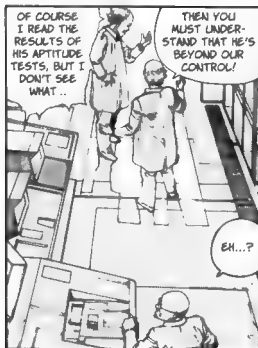


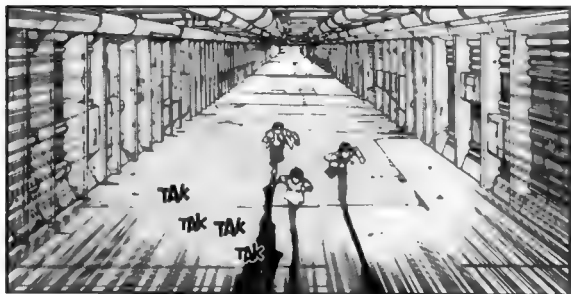


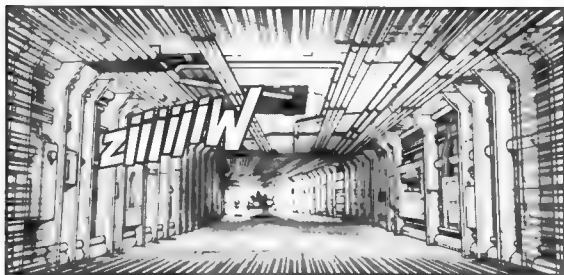




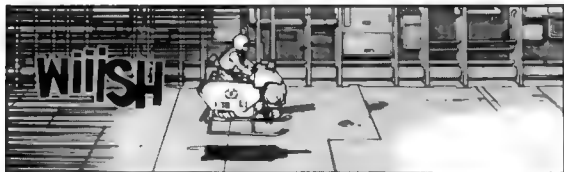


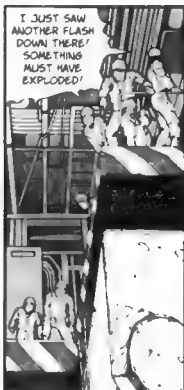
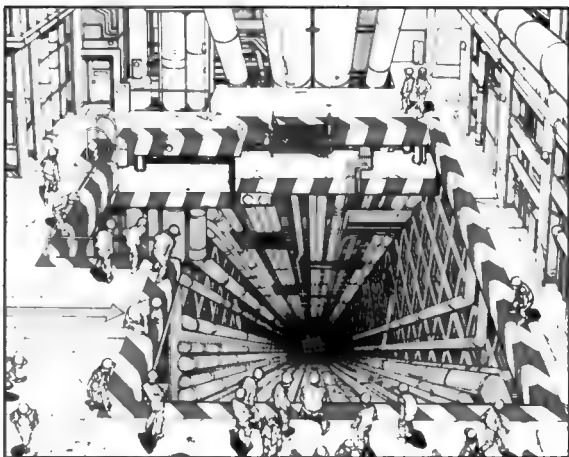










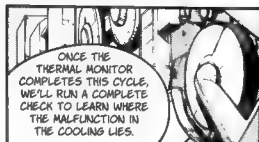


I JUST SAW
ANOTHER FLASH
DOWN THERE!
SOMETHING
MUST HAVE
EXPLODED!

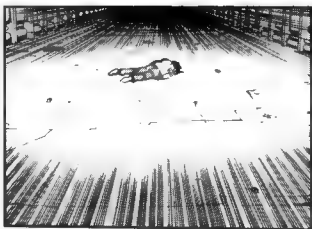
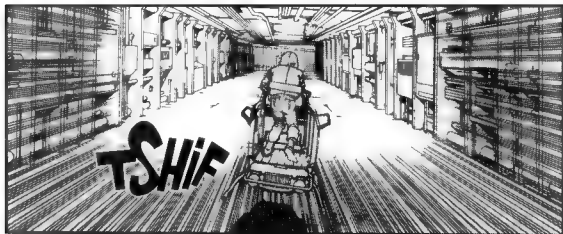


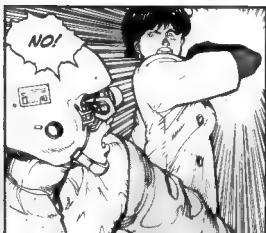
MAIN FORCE
TO FLYING
SQUADRON,
DO YOU
COPY? COME
IN, PLEASE!

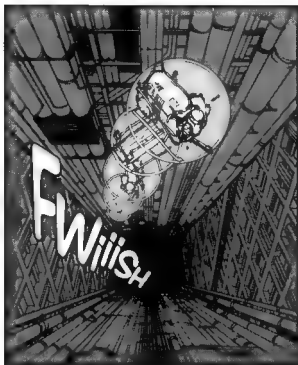


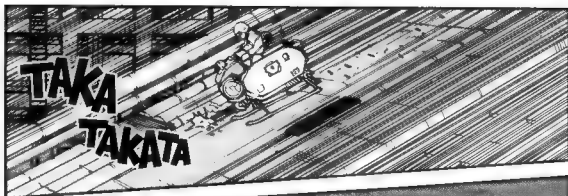




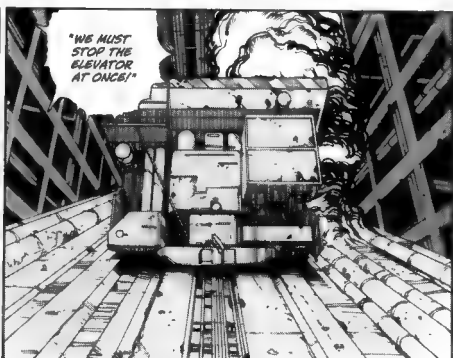
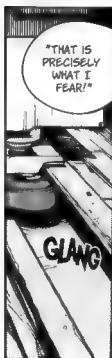


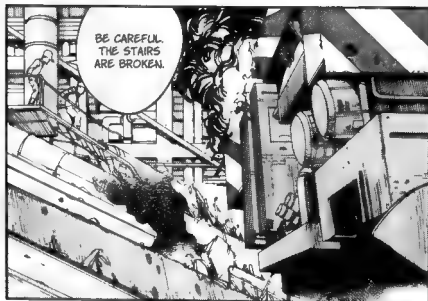


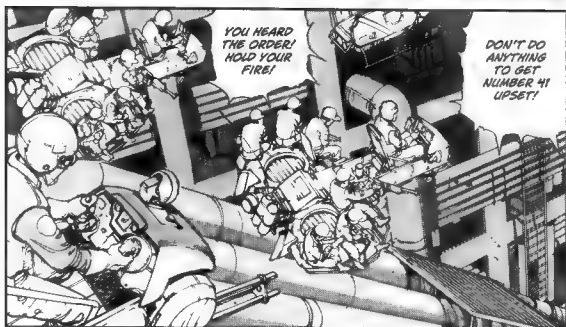
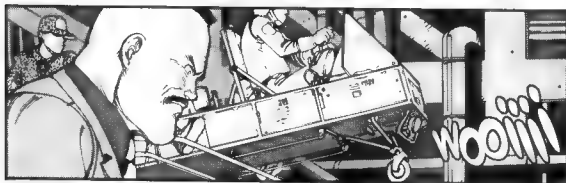


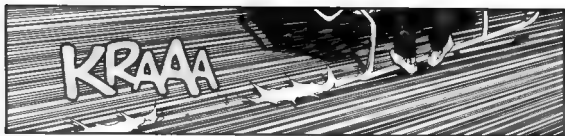


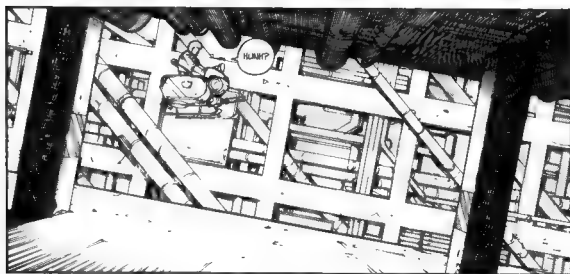
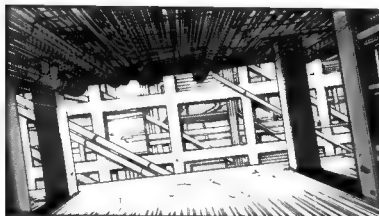


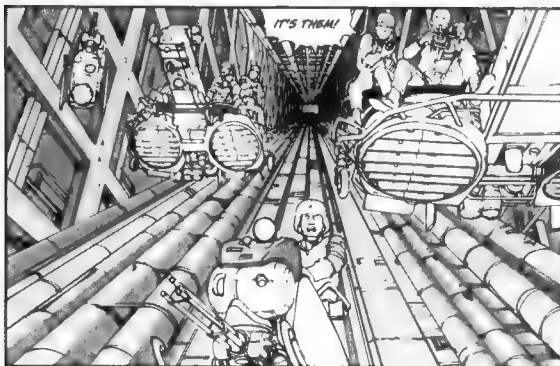
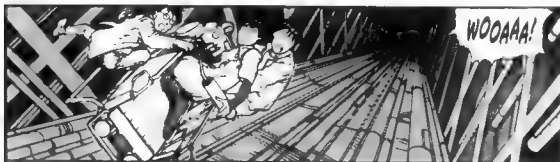




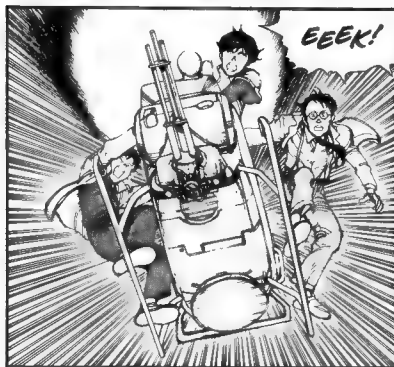




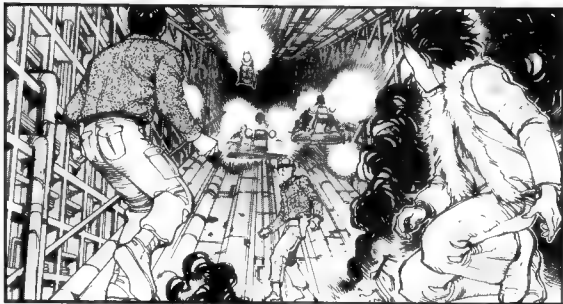
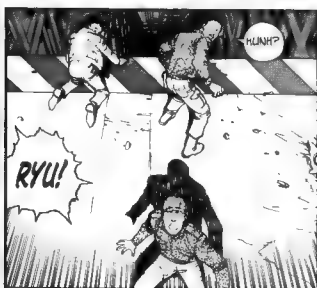


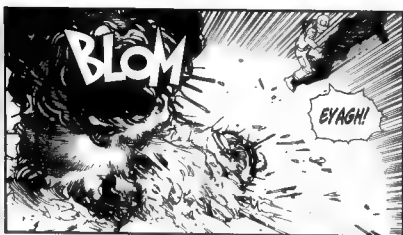
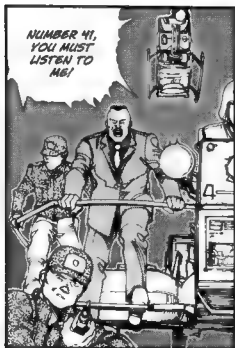




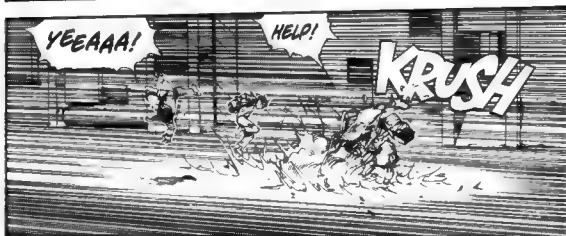
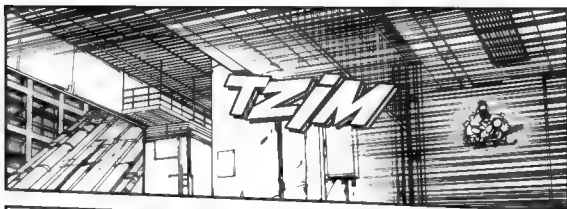






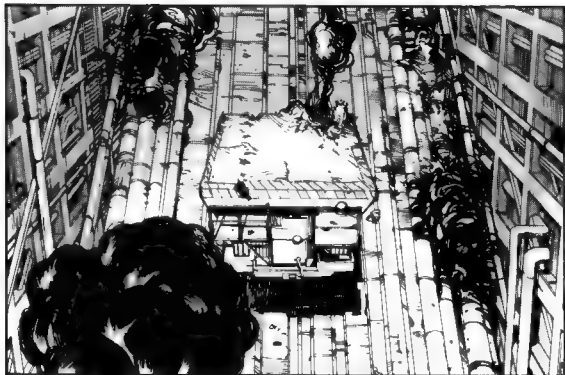


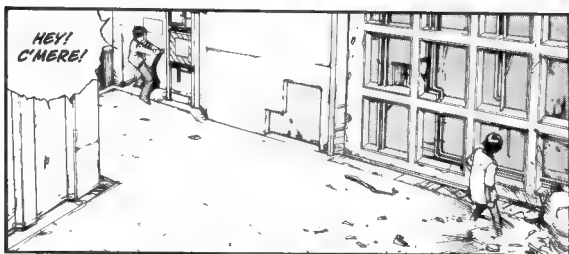




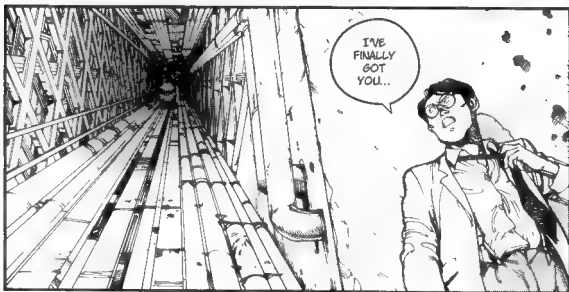
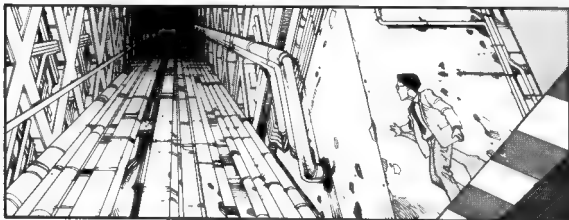
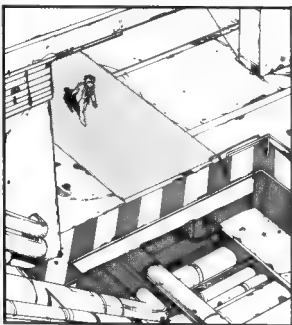
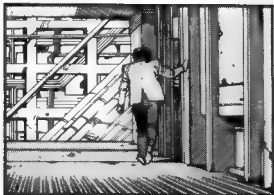


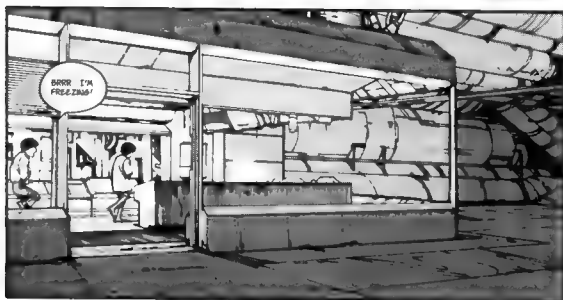










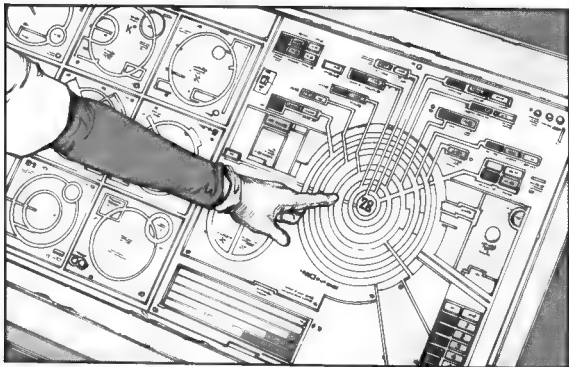




AH?
AAH!!

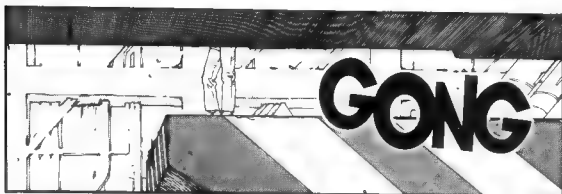


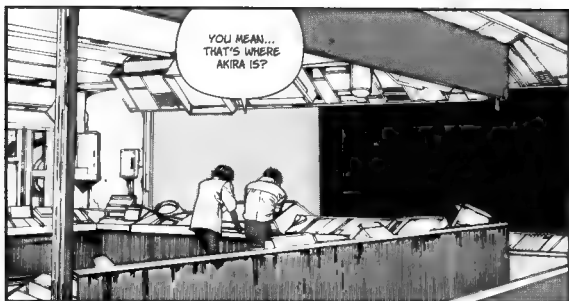
KANEDA,
LOOK!

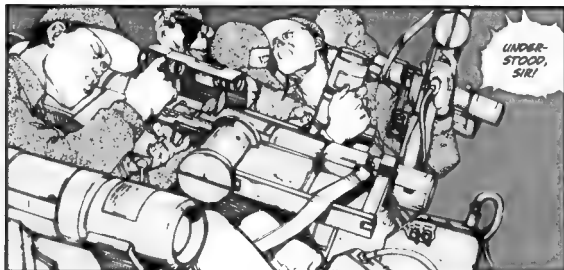
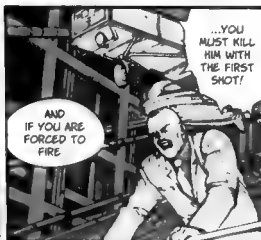
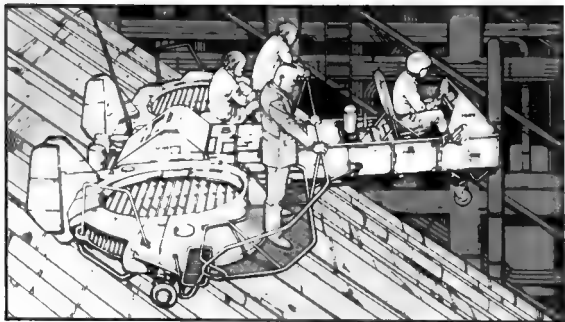


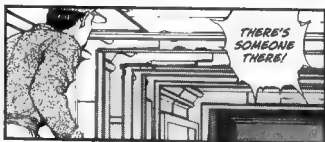
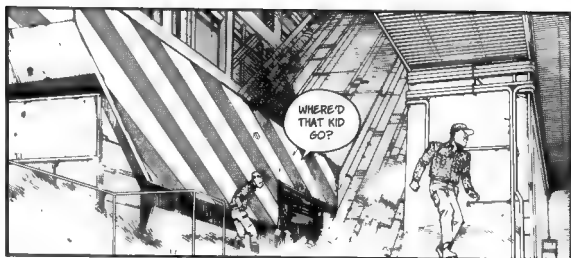
S-SO
WHAT...?

THAT'S
WHERE WE'LL
FIND NUMBER
28!



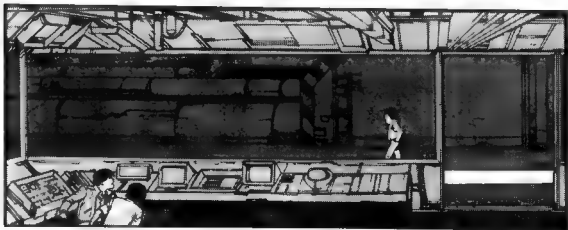
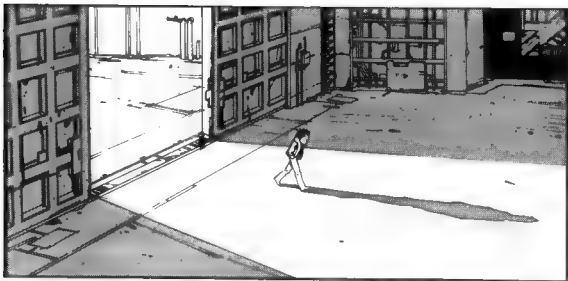


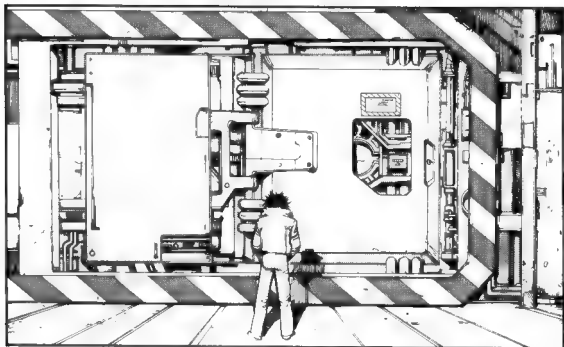




TOOM



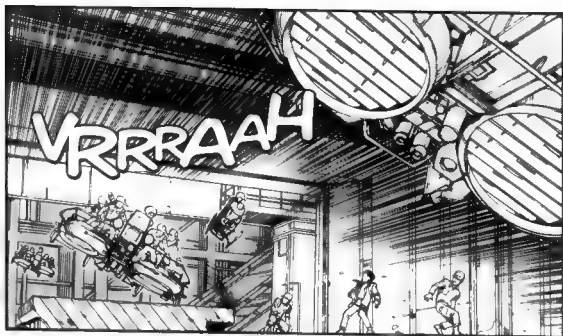




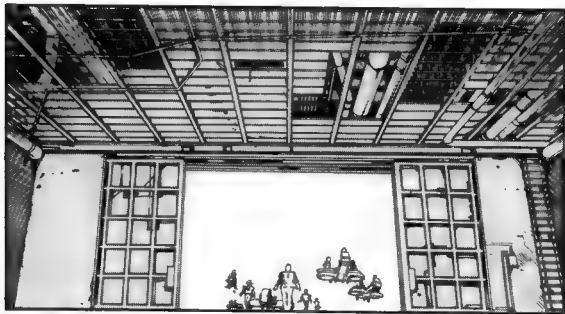


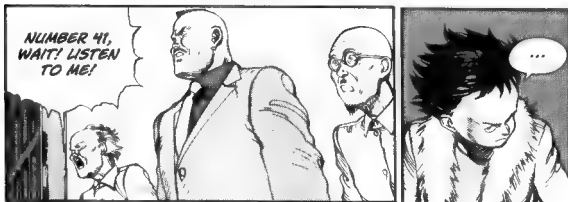
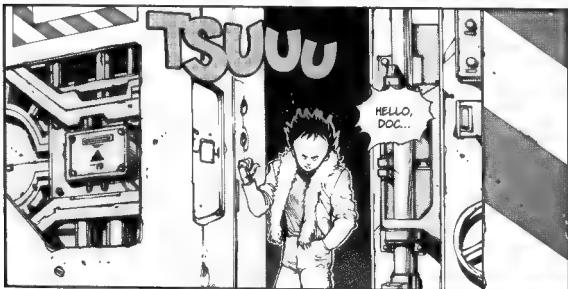


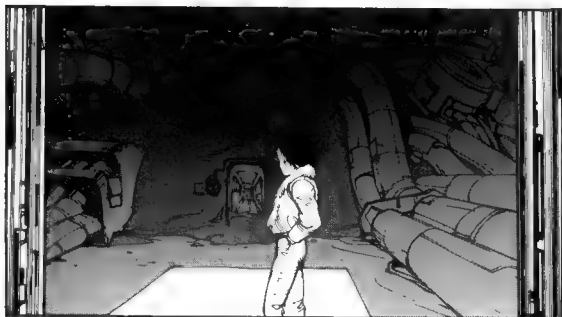


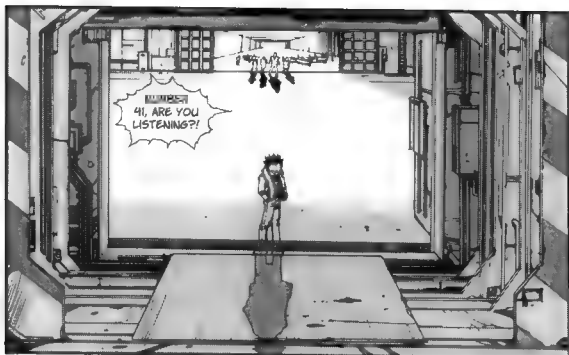


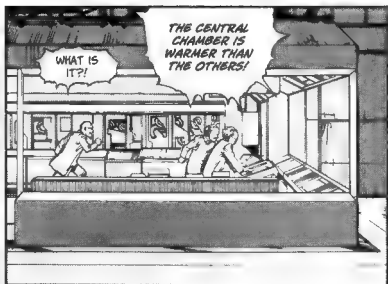
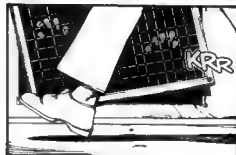
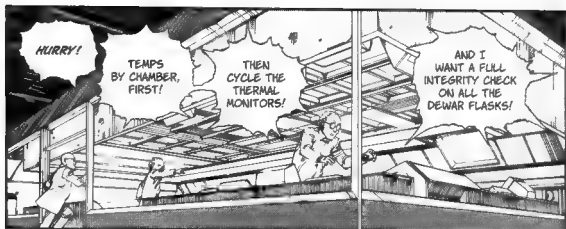


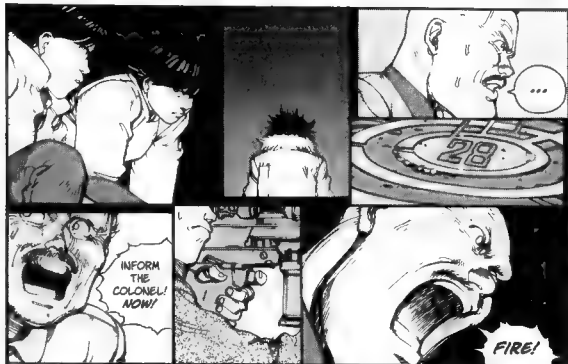
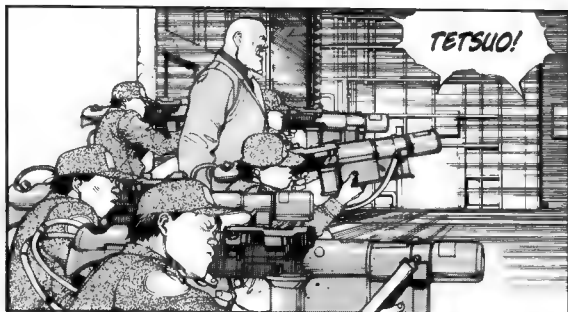


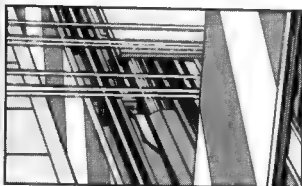


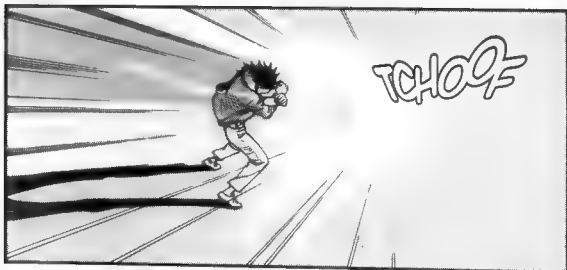


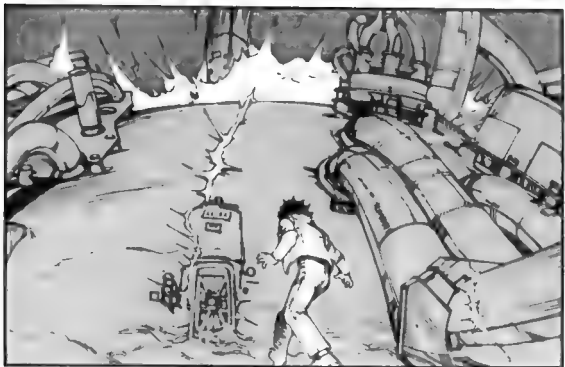
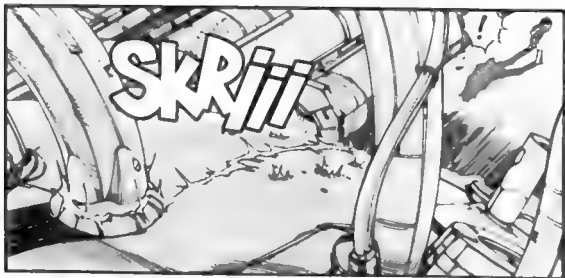


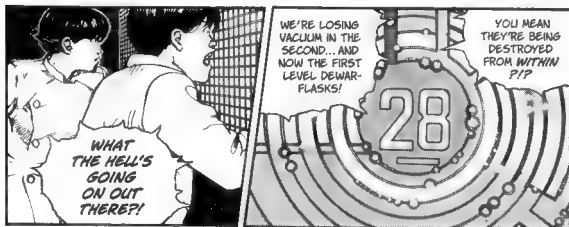
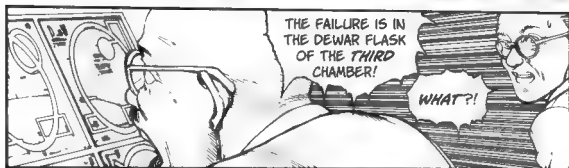
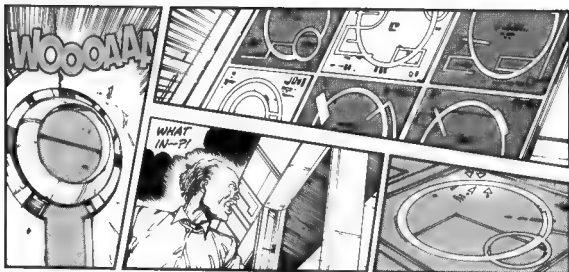


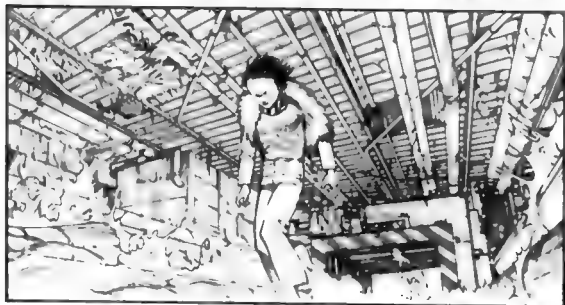
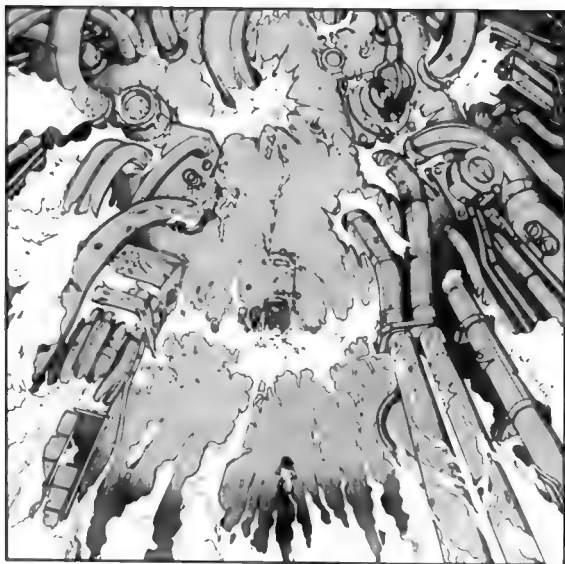




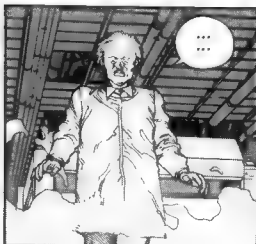
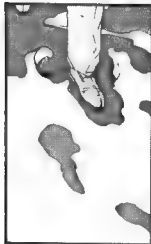
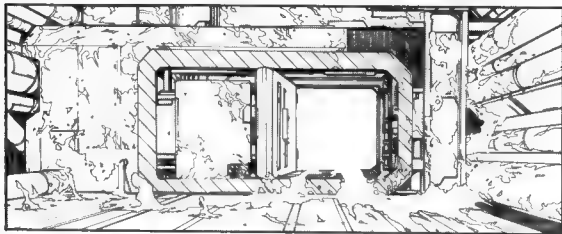
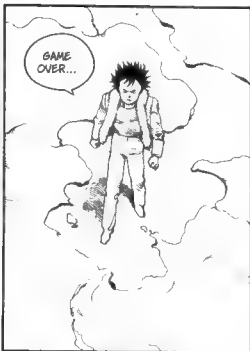






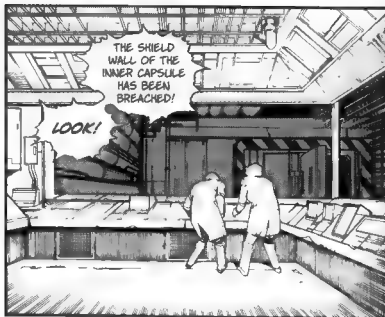


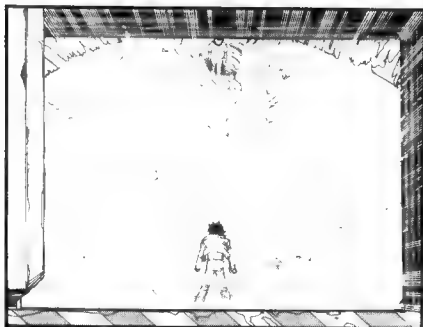




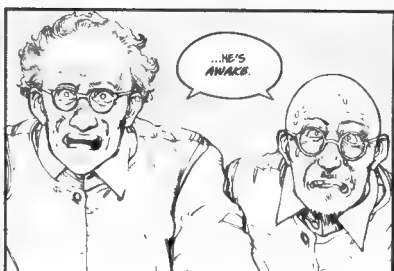


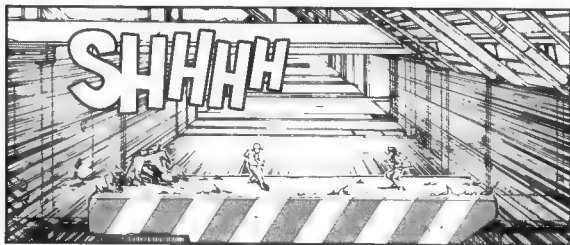
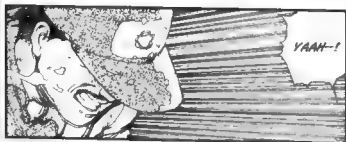




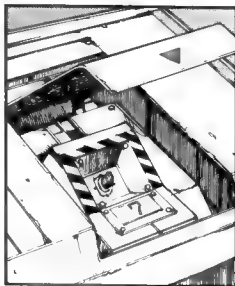
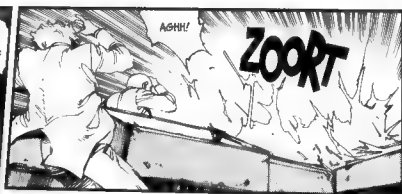


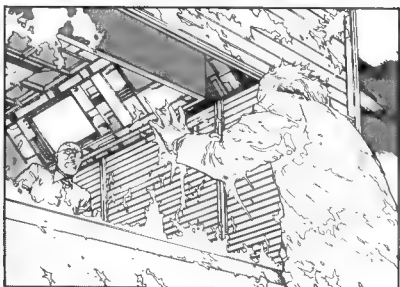
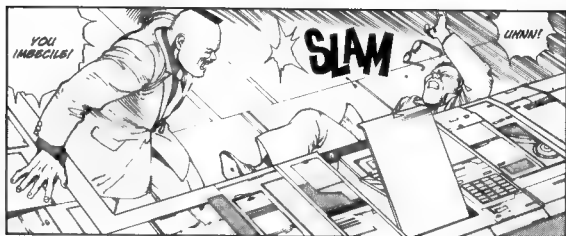




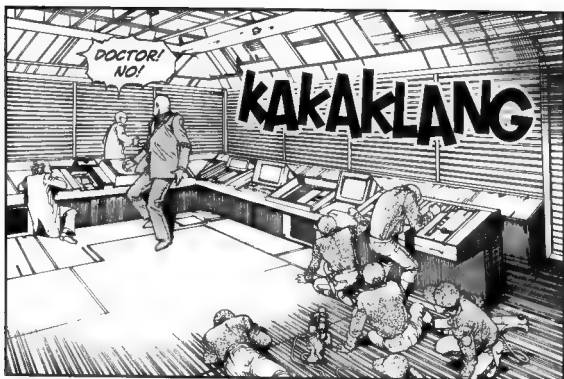


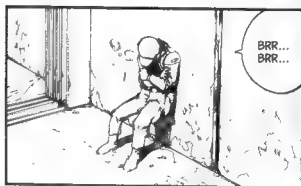




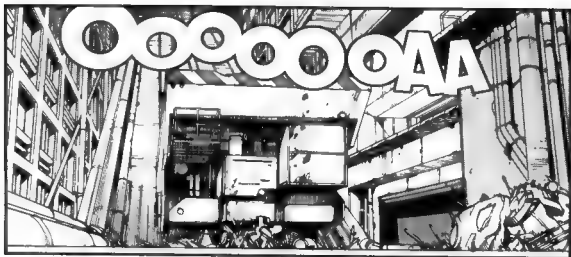






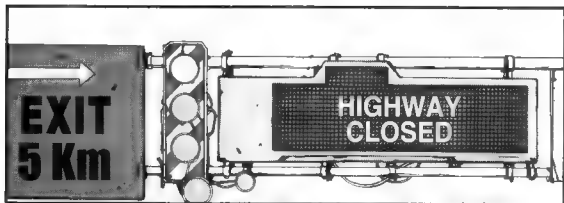






YOU HEAR THAT? A CODE SEVEN ALERT--WHAT-EVER'S UP, THE BRASS RANKS IT AS WORSE THAN A NUCLEAR ATTACK!



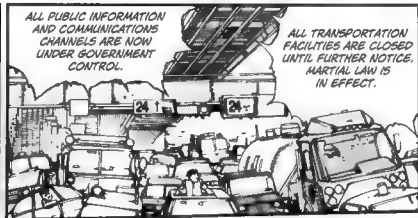
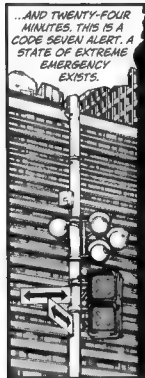




...AND TWENTY-FOUR MINUTES. THIS IS A CODE SEVEN ALERT. A STATE OF EXTREME EMERGENCY EXISTS.

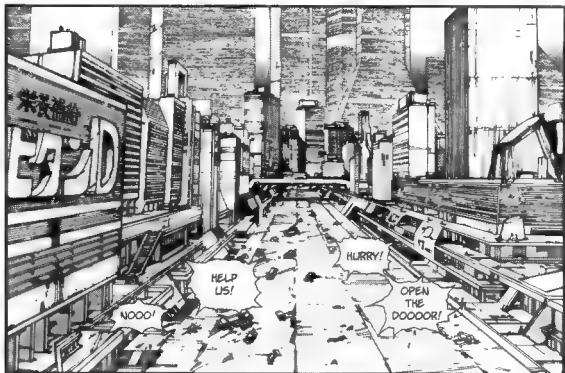
ALL PUBLIC INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS ARE NOW UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

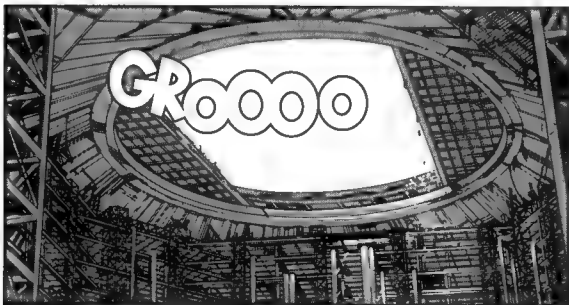
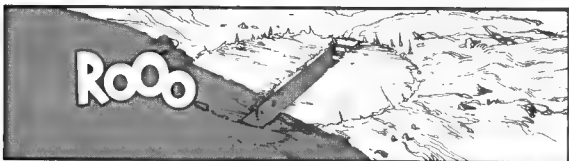
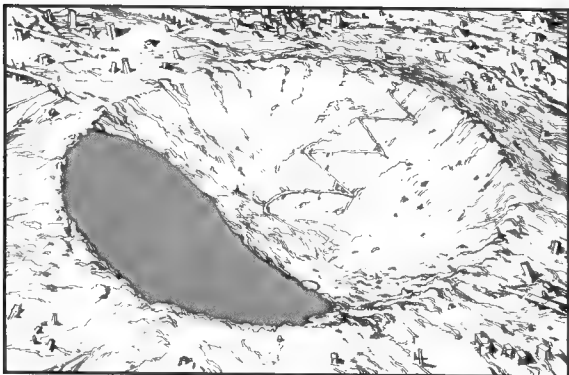
ALL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. MARTIAL LAW IS IN EFFECT.

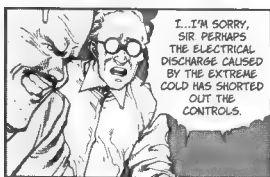
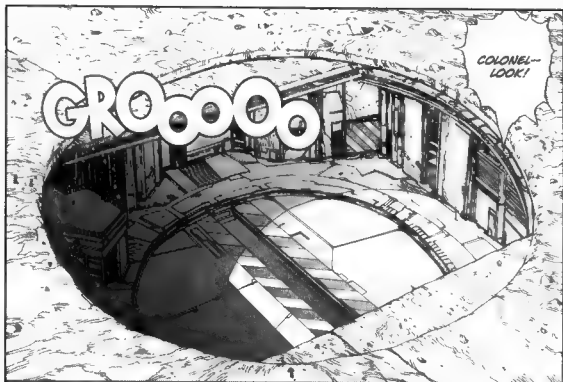


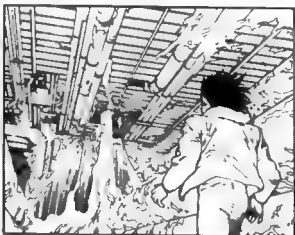
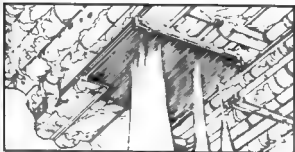
REPORT AT ONCE TO YOUR ASSIGNED EMERGENCY SHELTER. THERE ARE TEN MINUTES REMAINING UNTIL SHELTER DOORS ARE AUTOMATICALLY CLOSED.

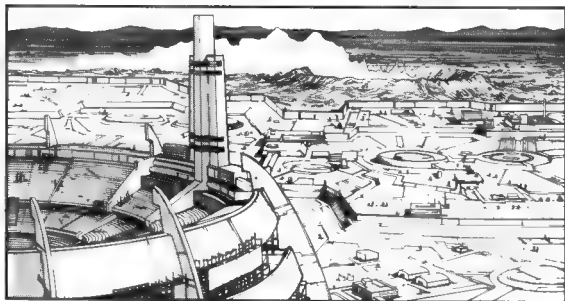
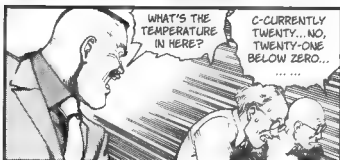


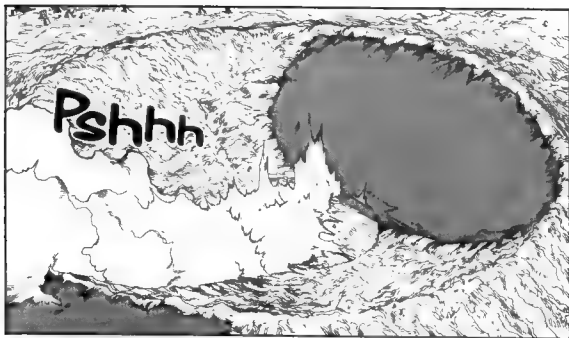


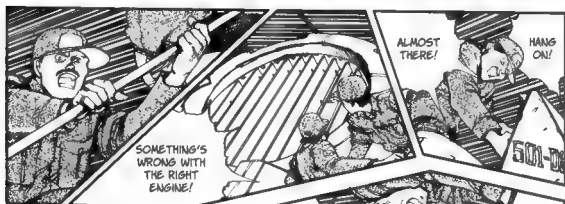
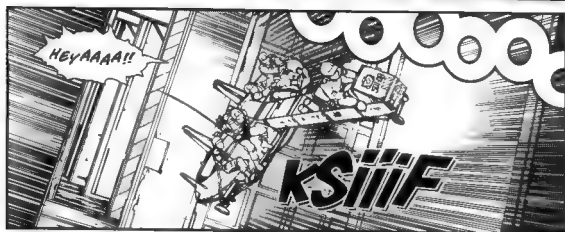


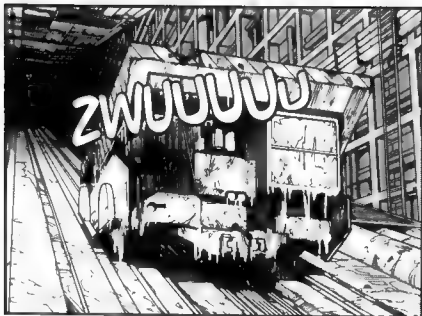


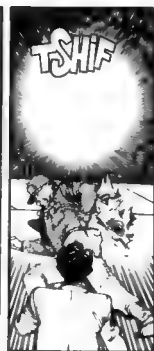


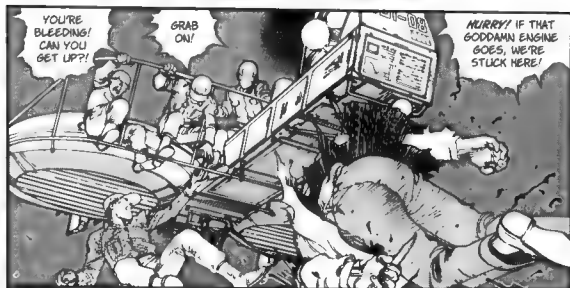
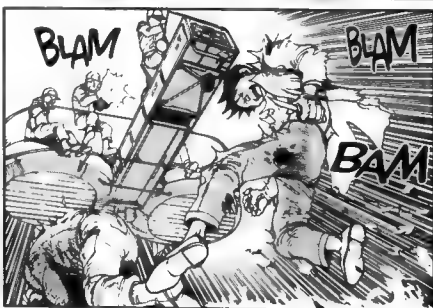


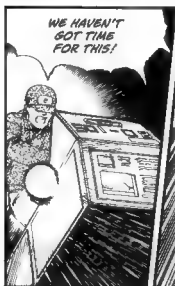


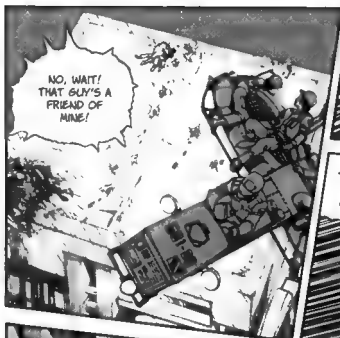


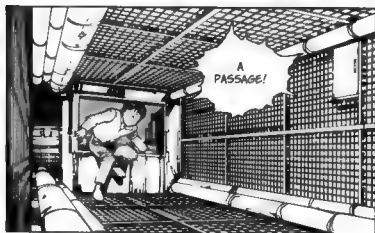






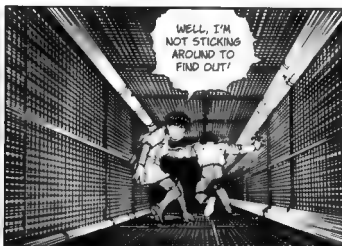
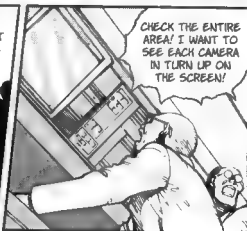


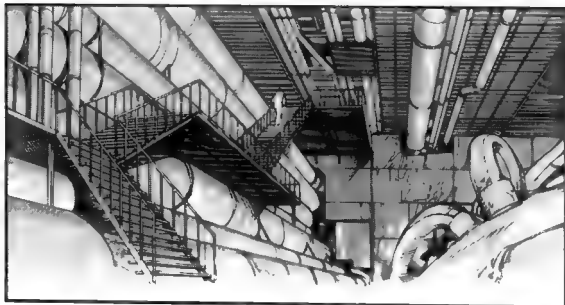


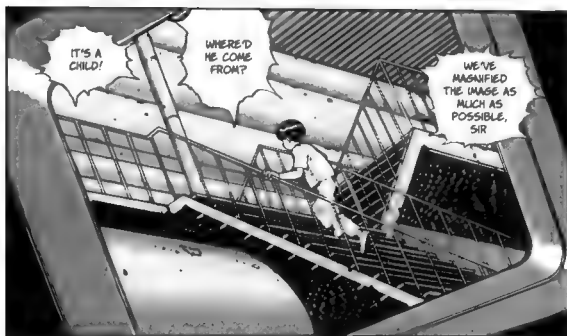


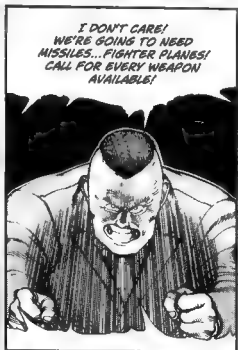
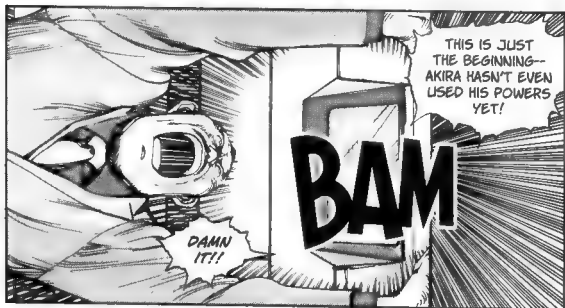


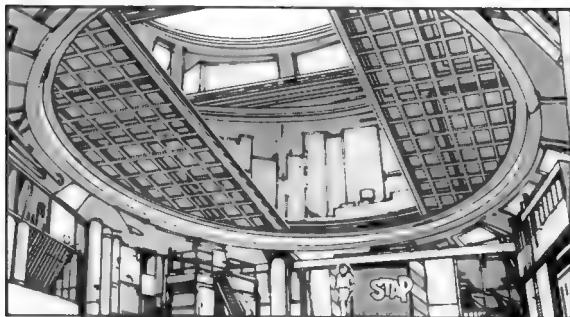
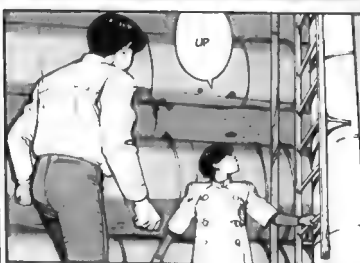
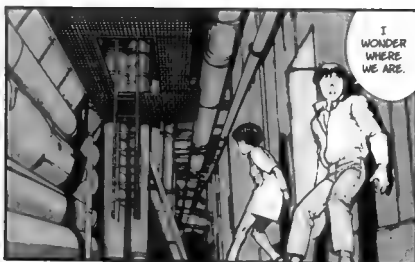
NOW! CHECK THE
MONITORS! I WANT
A REPORT ON THE
WHEREABOUTS
OF NUMBER 41!

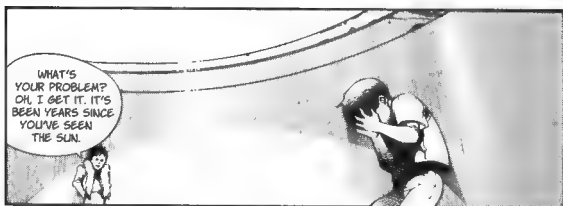




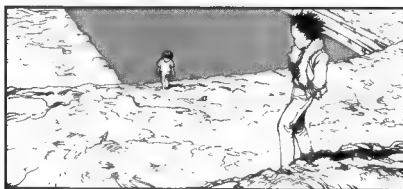
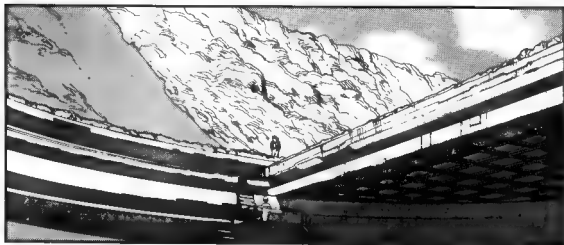


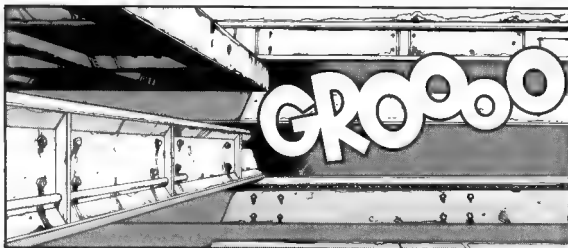


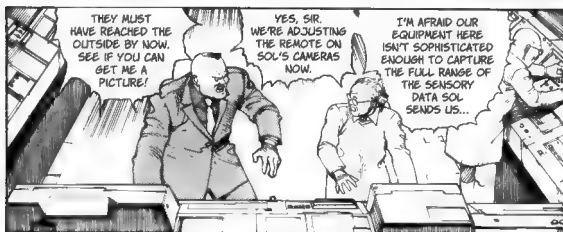
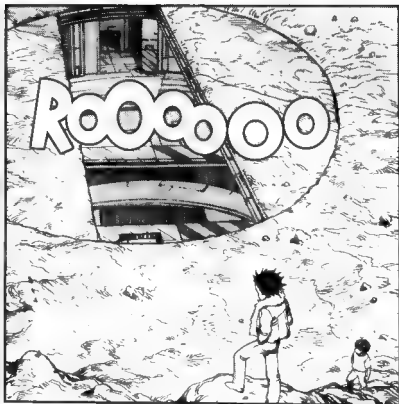


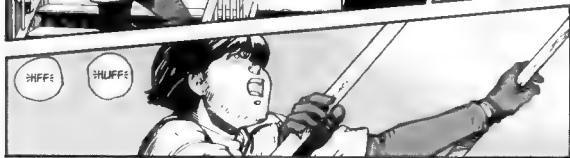
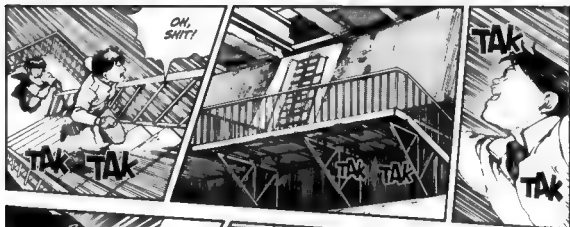
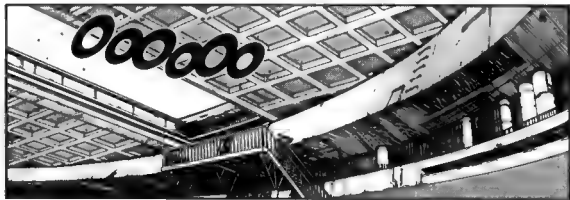








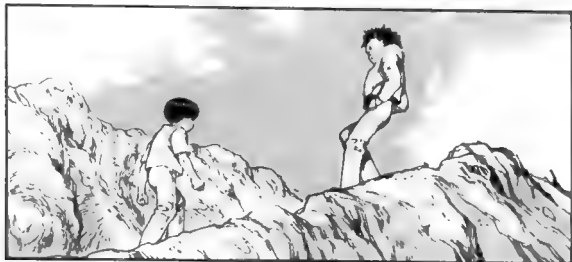


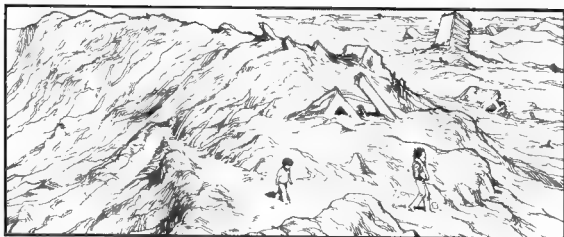


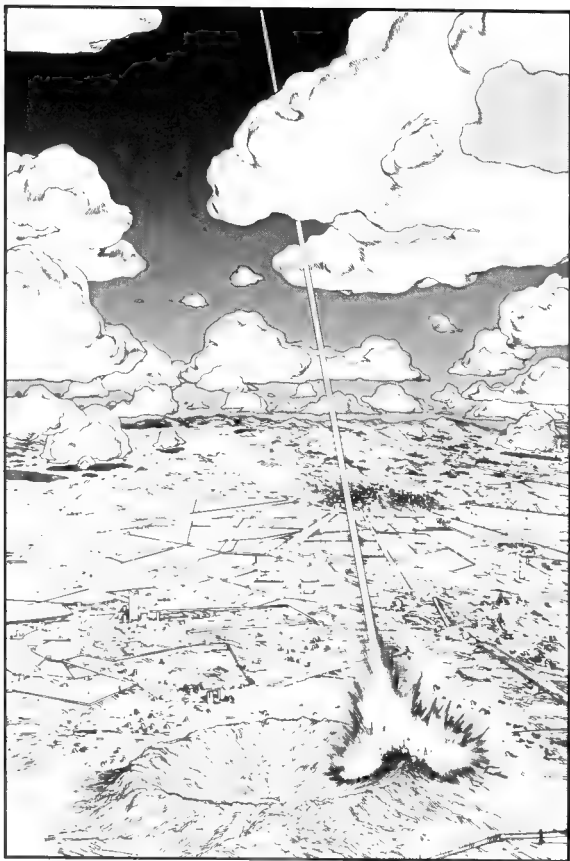


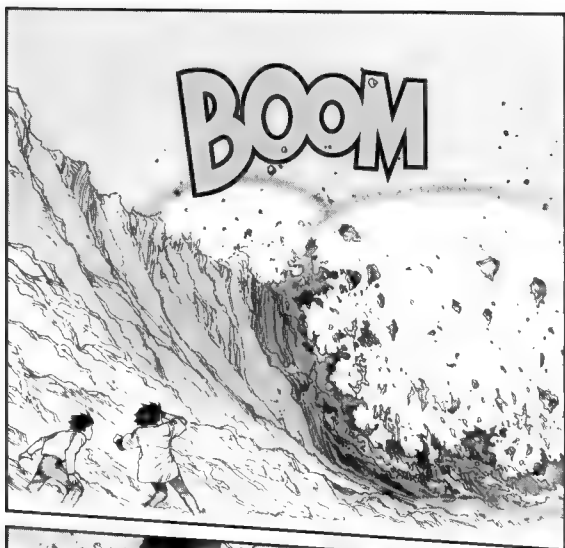




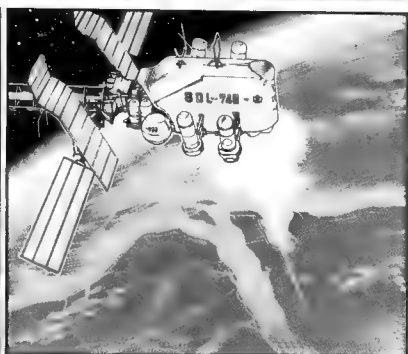
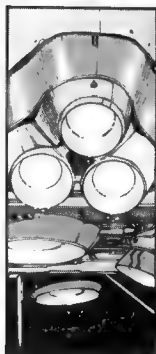
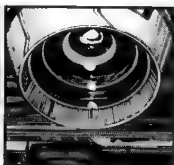
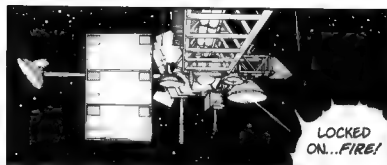
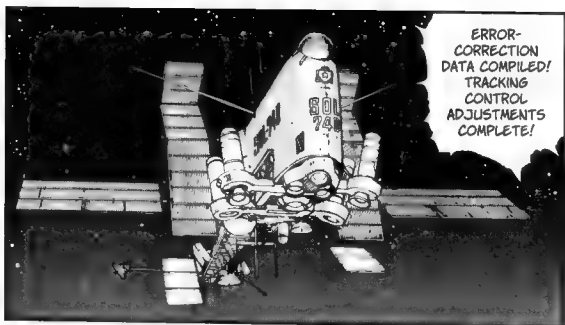


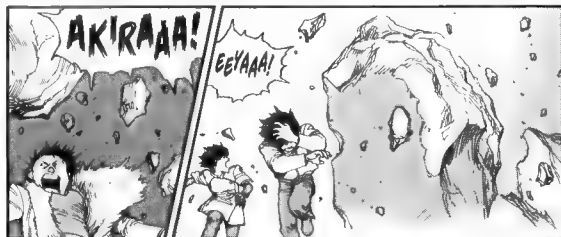


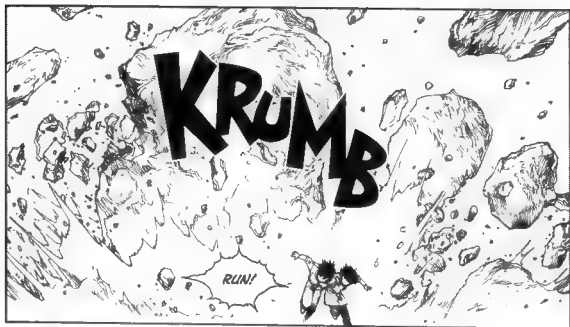




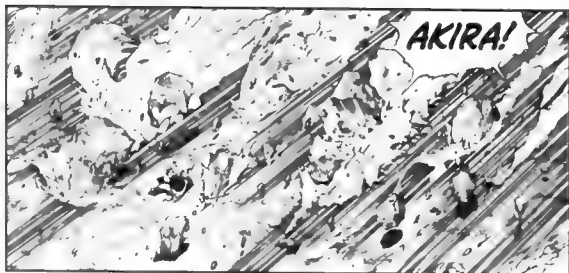




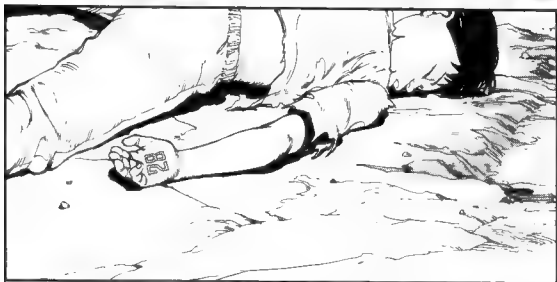


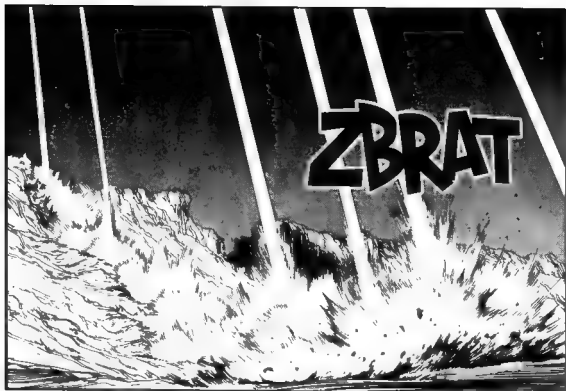












COLONEL,
THE
HATCH--!

SHUT
UP!

A HOLE
OR TWO
IN THE
HATCH
DOESN'T
MATTER!



DID
WE GET
THEM?!



SHUFF

SHUFF







IN THE 21ST CENTURY,

Neo-Tokyo has risen from the ashes of a Tokyo obliterated by a monstrous psychokinetic power known only as Akira, a being who yet lives, secretly imprisoned in frozen stasis. Those who stand guard know that Akira's awakening is a terrifying inevitability. Tetsuo Yamashita, an angry young man with immense — and rapidly growing — psychic abilities, may be their only hope to control Akira when he wakes. But Tetsuo is becoming increasingly unstable and harbors a growing obsession to confront Akira face-to-face. A clandestine group including his former best friend sets out to destroy Tetsuo before he can release Akira — or before Tetsuo himself becomes so powerful that no force on Earth can stop him!

An epic masterpiece of graphic fiction and the inspiration for its stunning animated adaptation, *Akira* is required reading for any enthusiast of science fiction, manga, and the graphic novel.

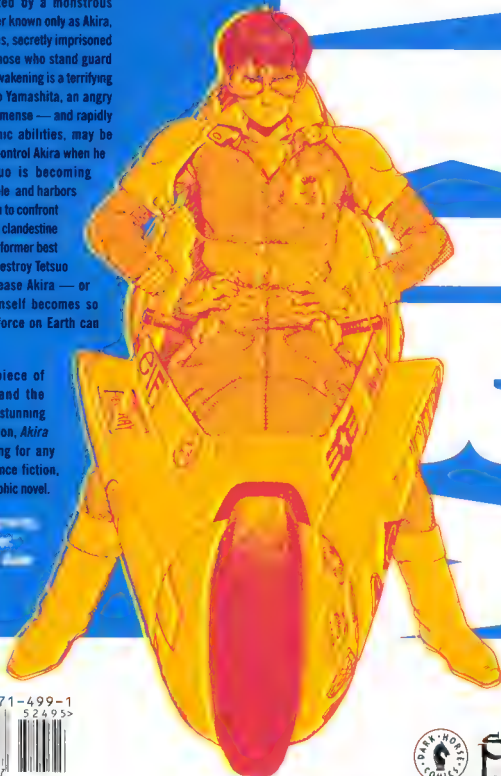
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a new era of
mystery, and power.
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AKIRA

2

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AKIRA 3

KATSUHIRO OTOMO





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AKIRA

KATSUMIRO OTOMO



AKIRA BOOK THREE

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The artwork of this volume has been produced as a mirror-image of the original Japanese edition to conform to English-language standards.

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**BOOK
THREE**


DARK HORSE COMICS®

THE STORY SO FAR

It was a dark, stormy night in the city of Neo City. The rain fell heavily on the streets, reflecting the neon lights of the city. In a small, dimly lit room, a man with a long, dark beard and a white headband was sitting at a desk, looking at a small, glowing orb in his hand.

The man's name was Kamei, and he was a member of the Neo City Police. He had been assigned to investigate a series of strange events that had been occurring in the city lately.

One of the events was the disappearance of a young woman named Akira. Akira was a member of the Neo City Police, and she had been missing for several days. Kamei had been assigned to find her.

Another event was the appearance of a strange, glowing orb in the city. The orb had been seen by several people, and it had been described as a small, glowing sphere of light.

Kamei had been assigned to investigate the orb, and he had been looking for it ever since. He had been told that the orb was a powerful artifact, and that it could be used to control the city.

Kamei had been looking for the orb for several days, but he had not been able to find it. He was beginning to feel frustrated, and he was starting to wonder if he was ever going to find it.

One day, Kamei was walking through the city streets, looking for the orb. He had been walking for several hours, and he was getting tired. He was looking at the ground, trying to find the orb.

As he was walking, he saw a small, glowing orb on the ground. He stopped and picked it up. He looked at the orb, and he saw that it was the same orb that he had been looking for.

Kamei was overjoyed. He had finally found the orb. He was going to take it to the police, and he was going to tell them what he had found.

As he was walking, he saw a man with a long, dark beard and a white headband. The man was looking at Kamei, and he was looking at the orb. He was looking at Kamei with a strange expression.

Kamei was looking at the man, and he was looking at the orb. He was looking at the man with a strange expression. He was looking at the man with a strange expression.

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KAMEI



TETSUO



KIKI



RYU



TAKASHI



THE COLONEL



MASARU



KIYOKO



JOKER



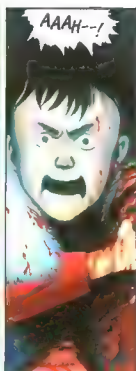
NEZU

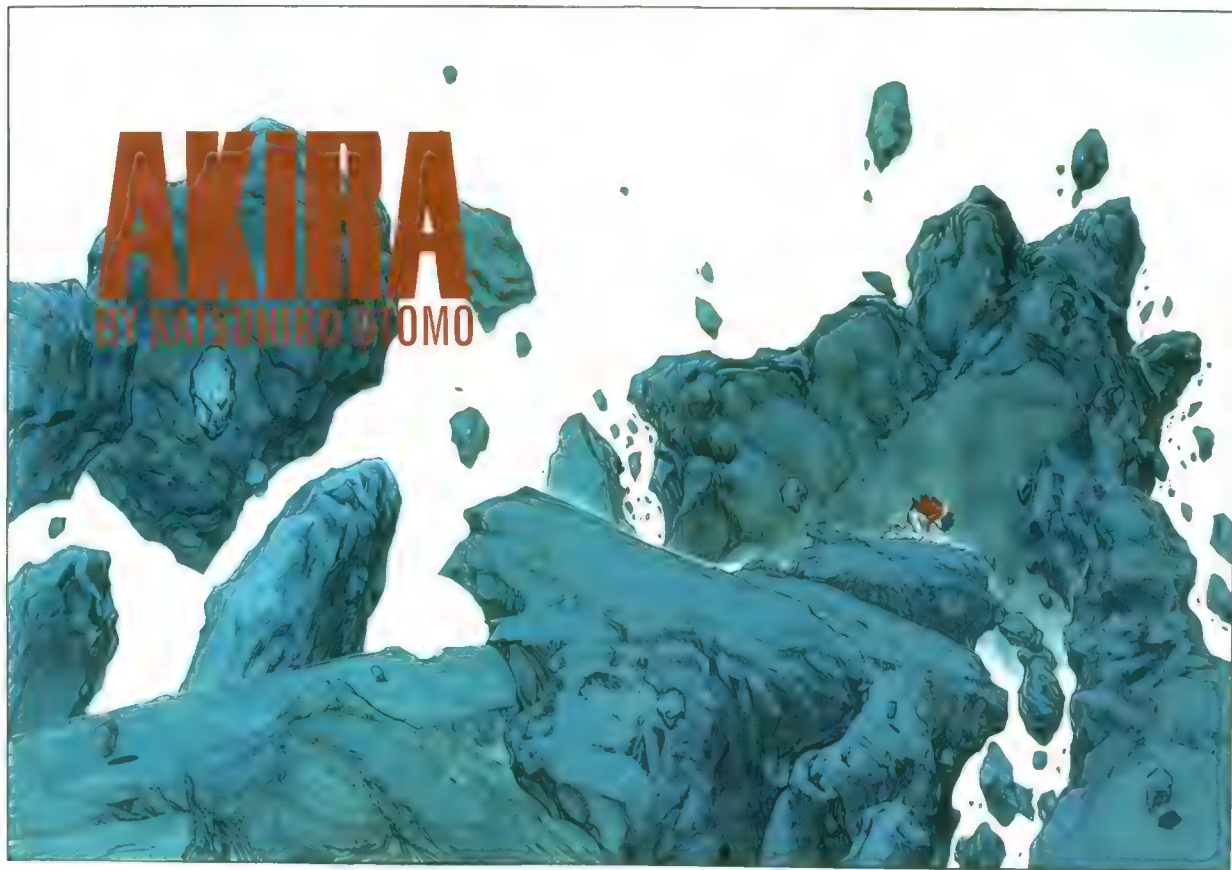


LADY MIYAKO



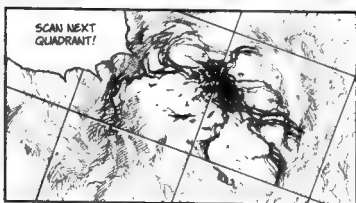
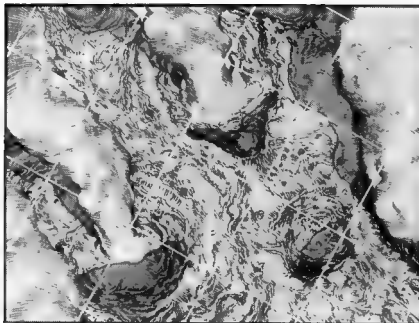
AKIRA

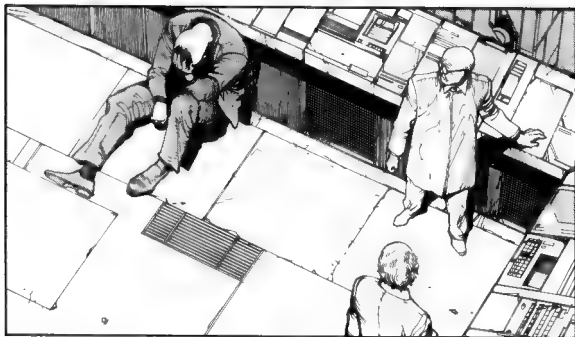
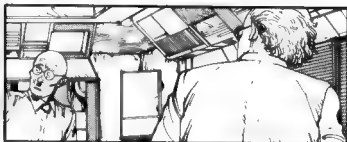


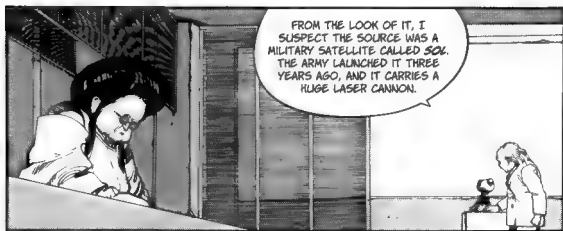
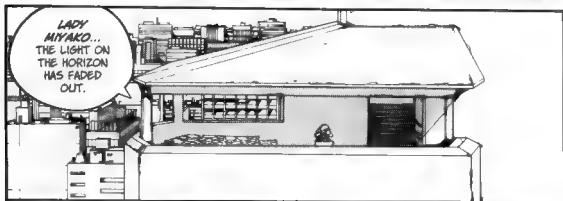


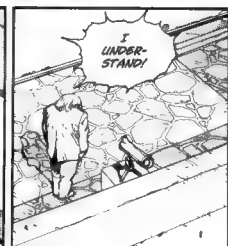
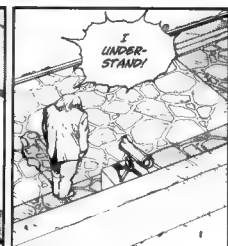


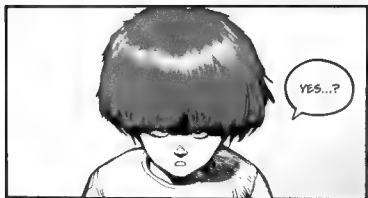
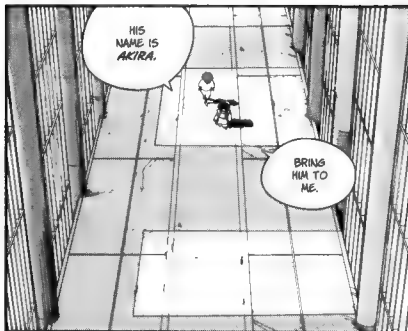


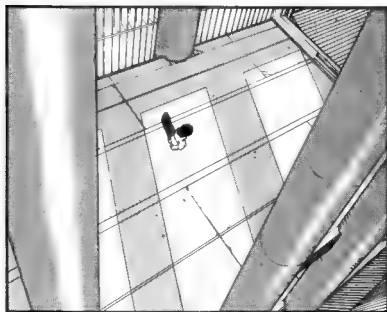


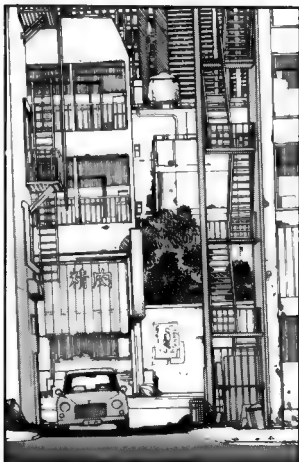


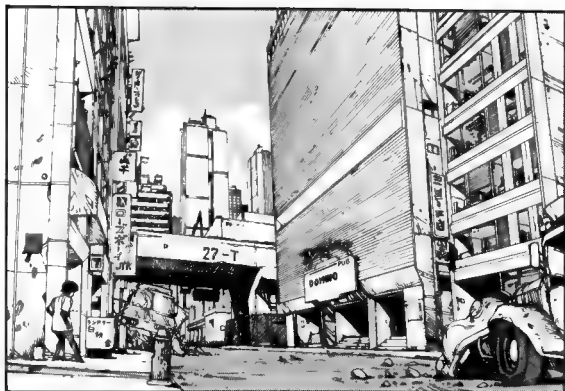


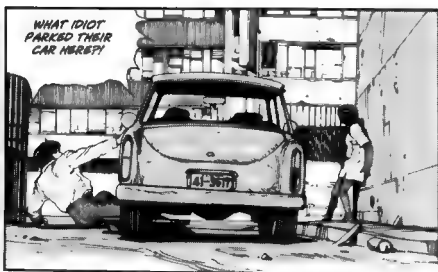


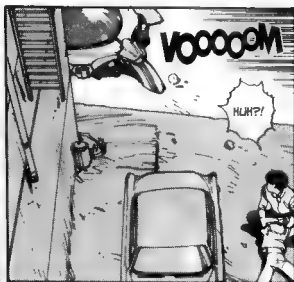


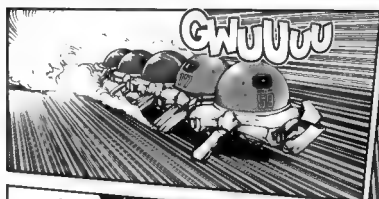


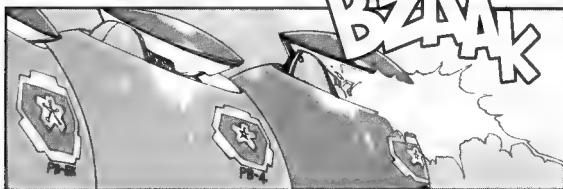
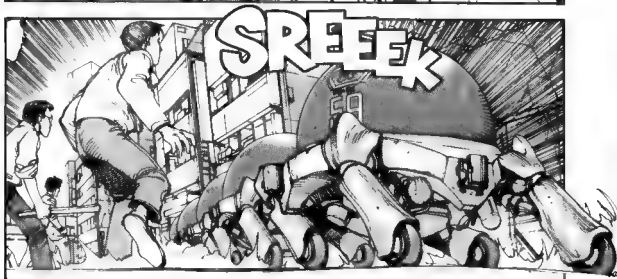




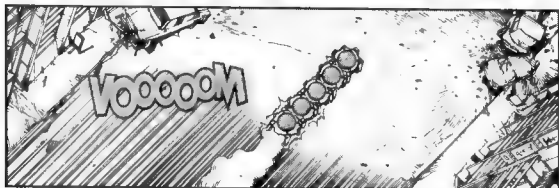
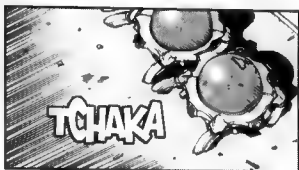
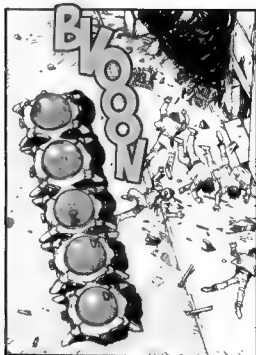


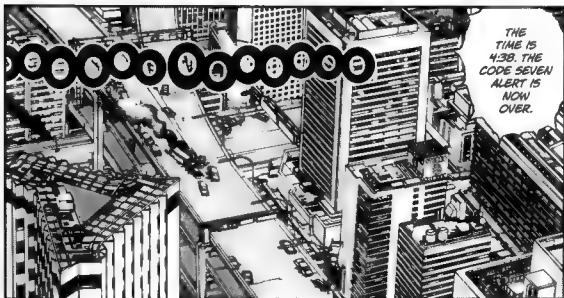
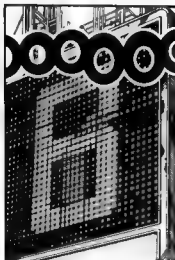
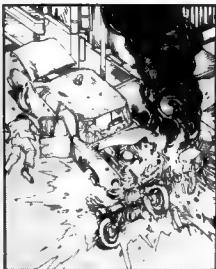
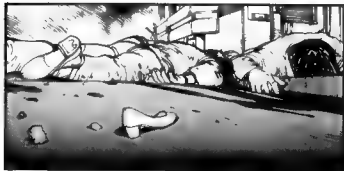






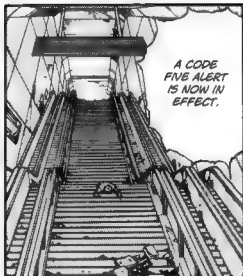








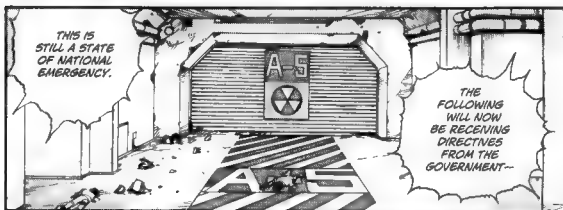
ALL CITIZENS
MAY LEAVE
THE SHELTERS
AND RETURN
HOME.



A CODE
FIVE ALERT
IS NOW IN
EFFECT.



BE ADVISED
THAT YOU ARE
STILL UNDER
MARTIAL LAW.



THIS IS
STILL A STATE
OF NATIONAL
EMERGENCY.

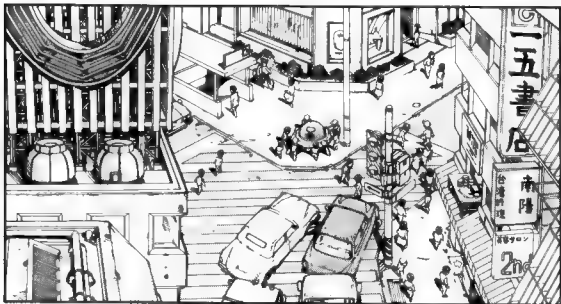
THE
FOLLOWING
WILL NOW
BE RECEIVING
DIRECTIVES
FROM THE
GOVERNMENT--

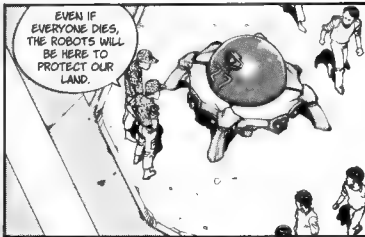
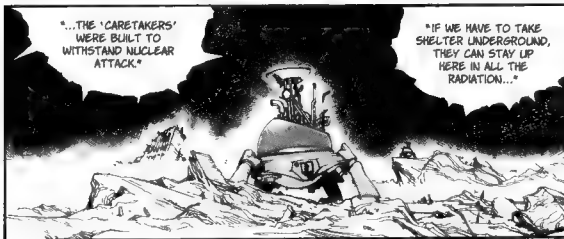
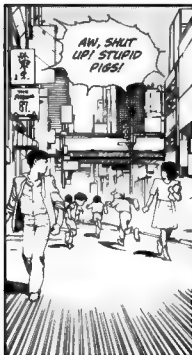


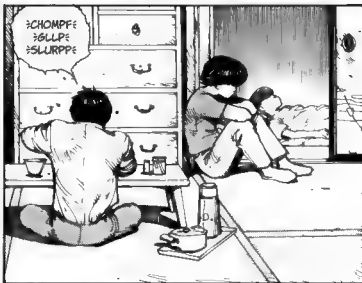
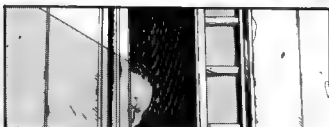
--ALL PEACE
OFFICERS, THE
RAILROADS AND
SUBWAYS, POST
OFFICES...

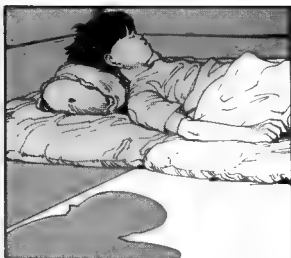
...ALL
COMMUNICATION
AND INFORMATION
NETWORKS...ALL
SCHOOLS...

THESE
ORDERS MUST
BE OBEYED BY
ALL PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE
SERVICES...











DON'T BE
ABSURD!

WE CANNOT
GO ON AS IF
NOTHING HAS
HAPPENED!

BUT...

NO
BUTS!



BUT ALL
INFORMATION
REGARDING
AKIRA IS TOP
SECRET!

WE
CAN HARDLY
ISSUE A PRESS
RELEASE TO
THAT EFFECT!

PRECISELY
MY POINT!

LISTEN...

SHUT
UP AND SIT
DOWN!

LISTEN
TO ME!!

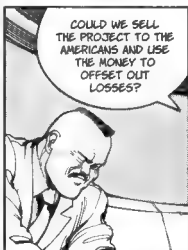
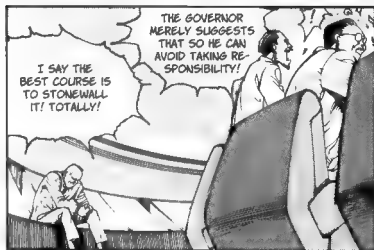


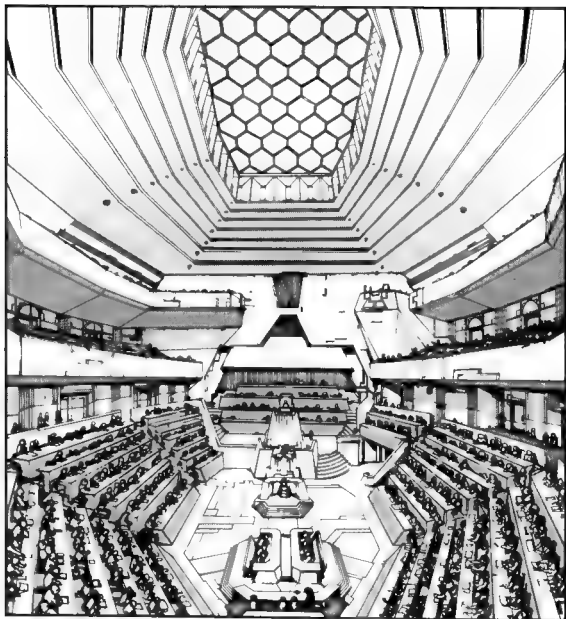
TOP SECRET? IT'S
TOO LATE TO TALK
ABOUT SECRETS! THE
MEDIA ALREADY
KNOW!

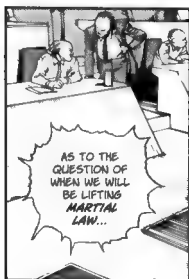
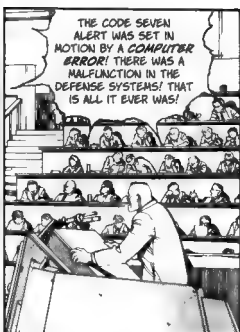
WE MUST FIND
THE SOURCE OF
THE LEAK!

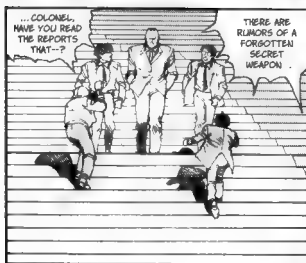
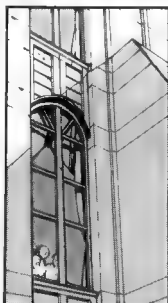
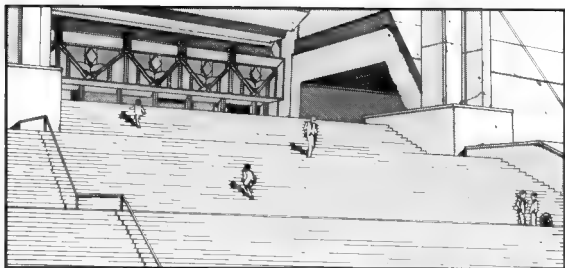
AT THE
MOMENT, THAT'S
NOT OUR CHIEF
CONCERN!

WHAT
MATTERS
NOW IS THE
NUMBER OF
CASUALTIES
ARISING FROM
THE CODE
SEVEN
ALERT!





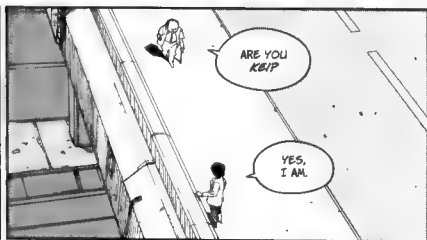
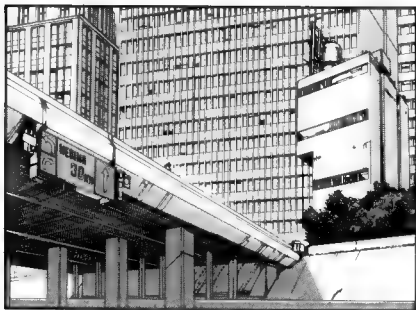


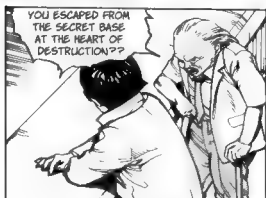
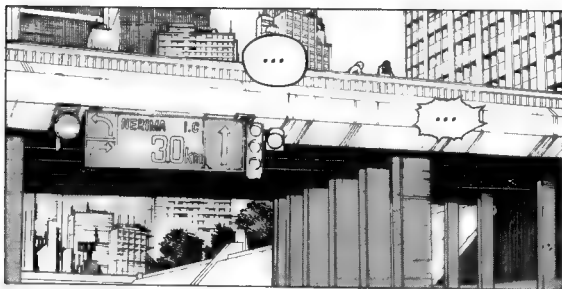


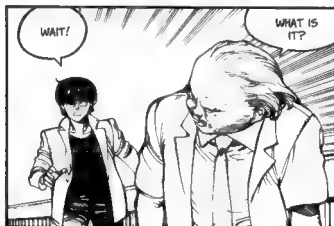
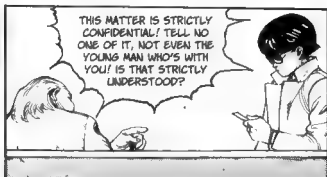


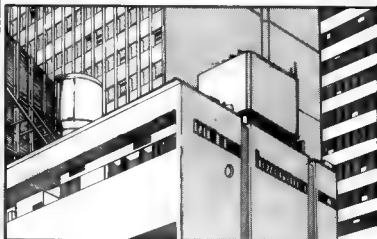
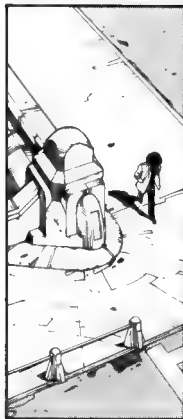
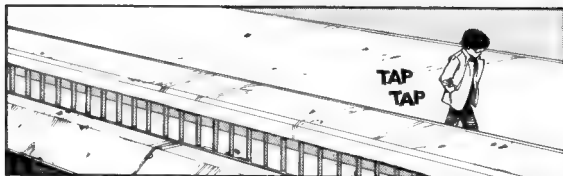


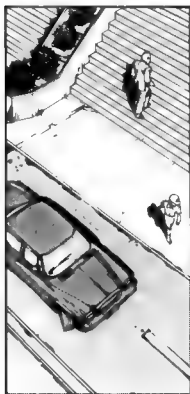
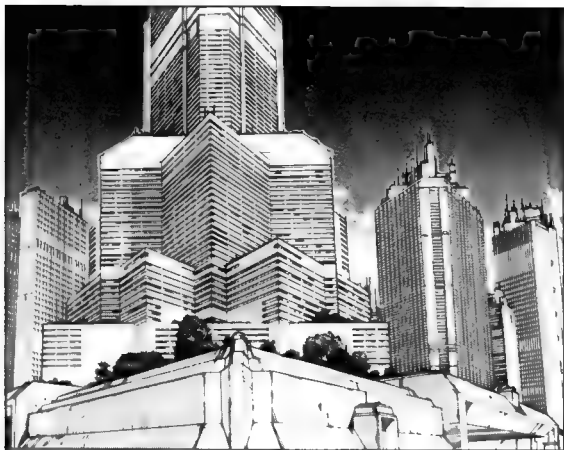


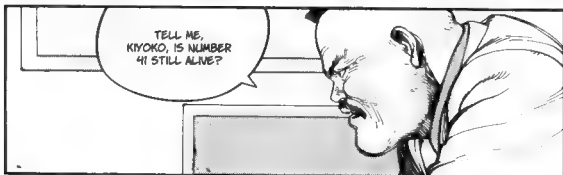
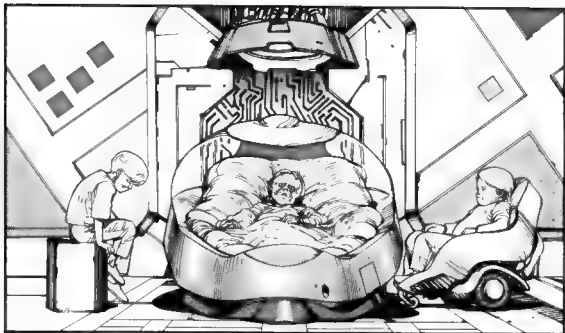


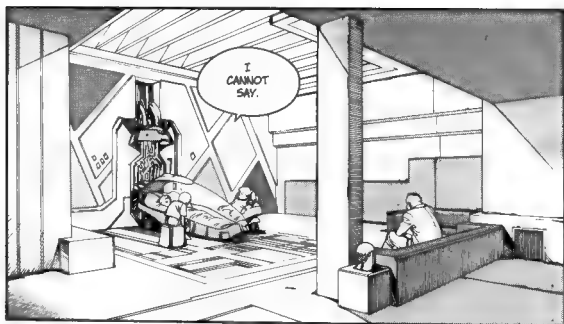


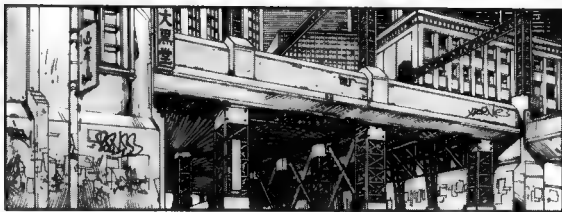
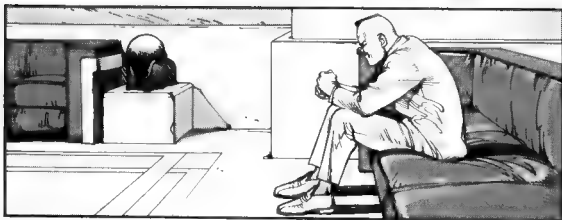
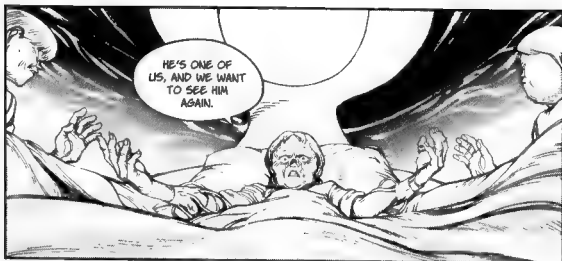


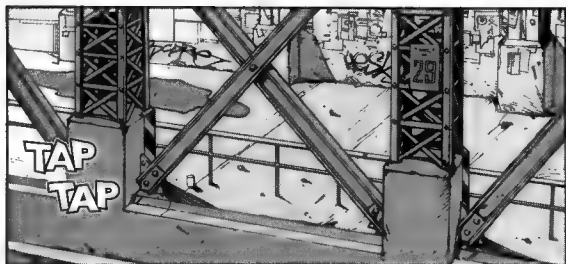


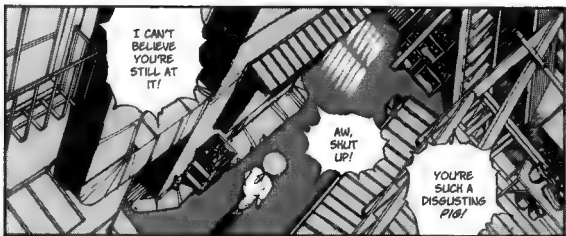


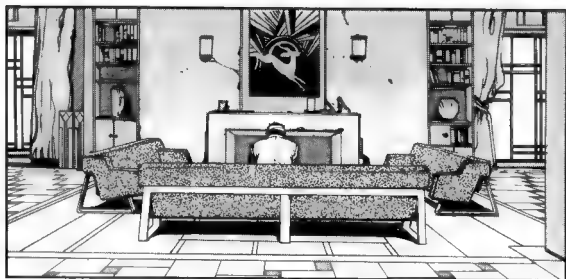
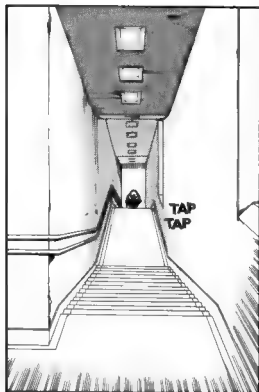


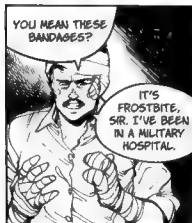


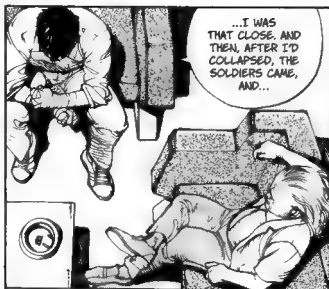


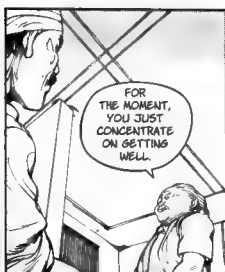




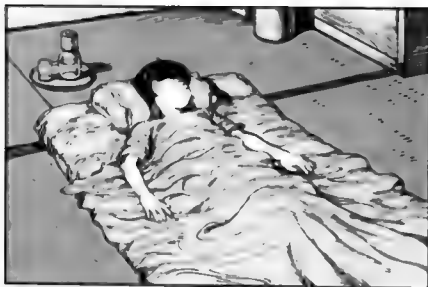




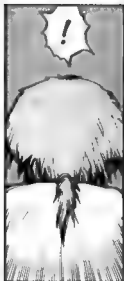






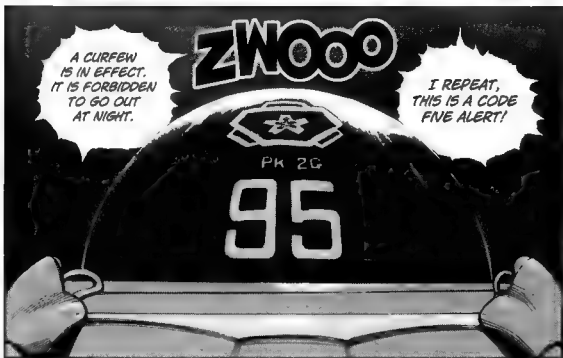
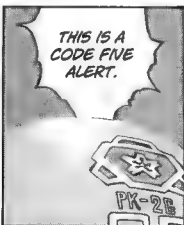


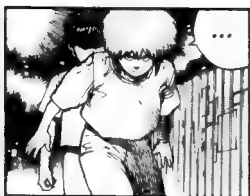


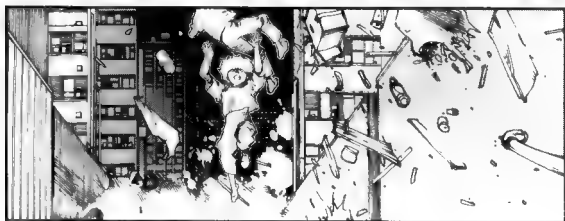




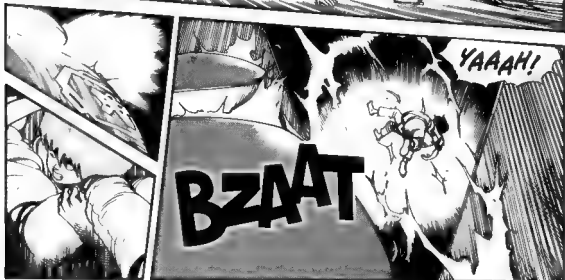


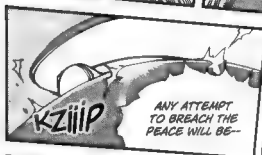


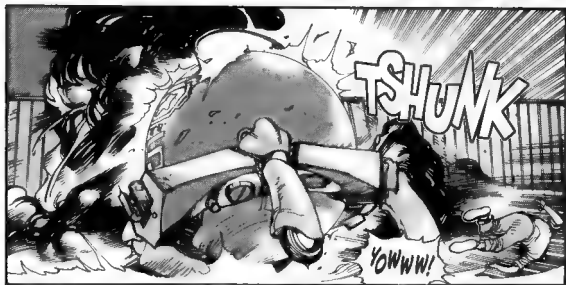
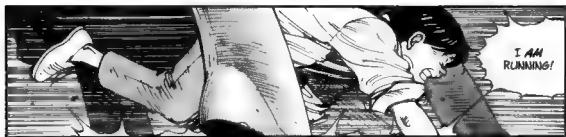


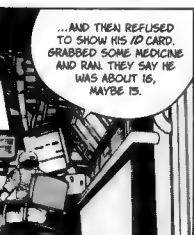
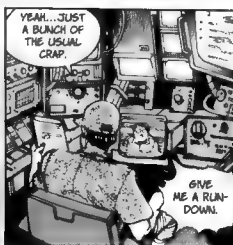
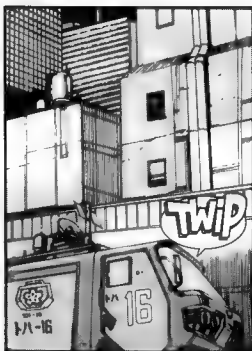




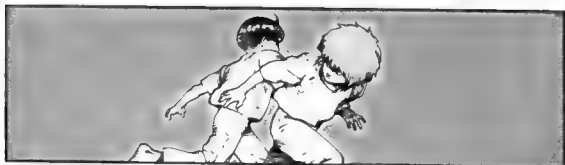


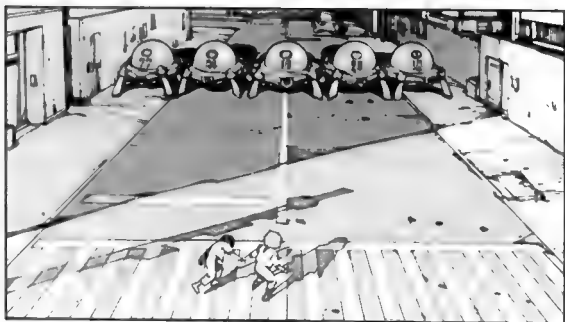




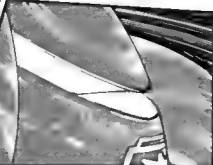


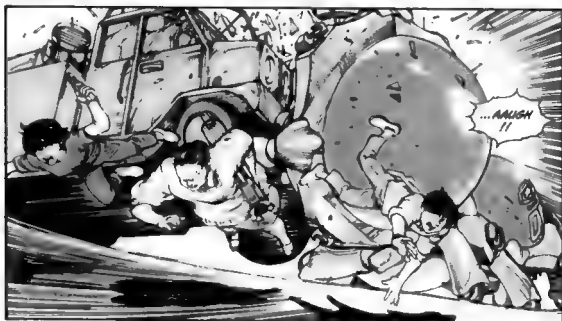


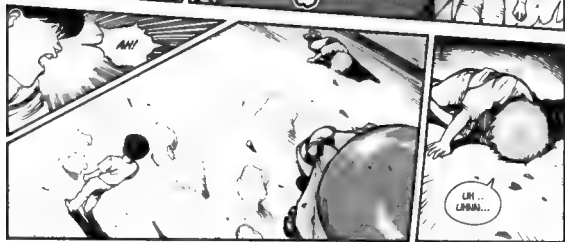
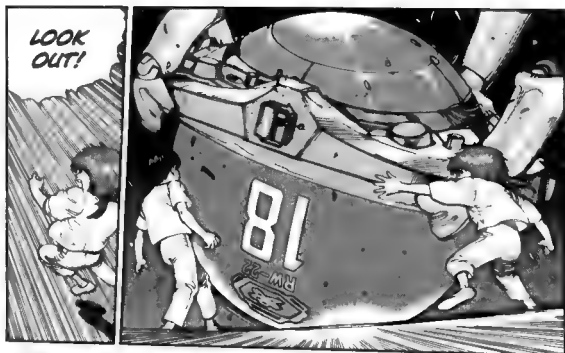






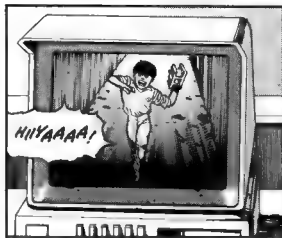
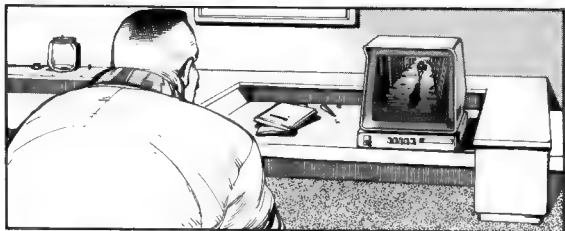
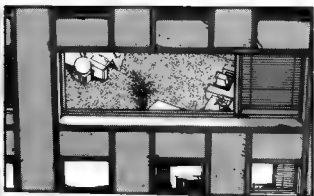




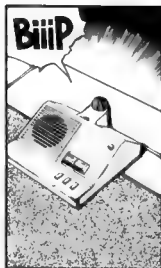


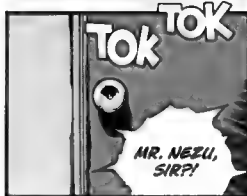


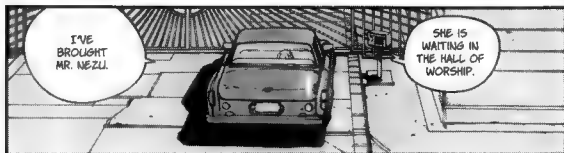
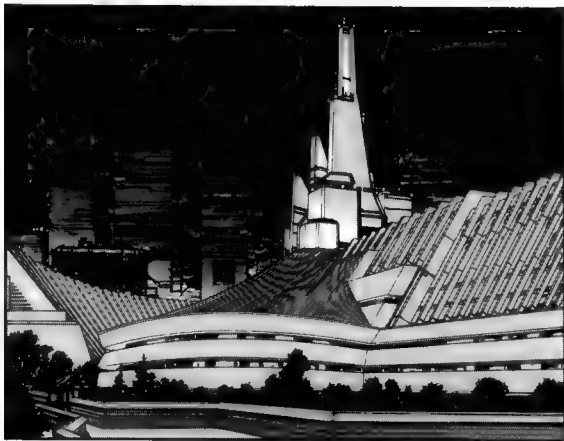
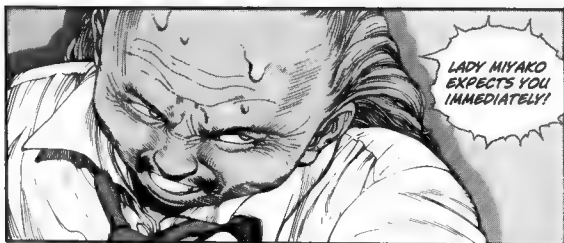




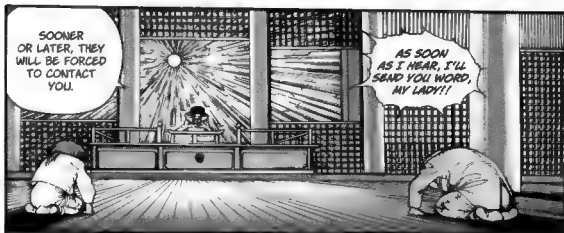
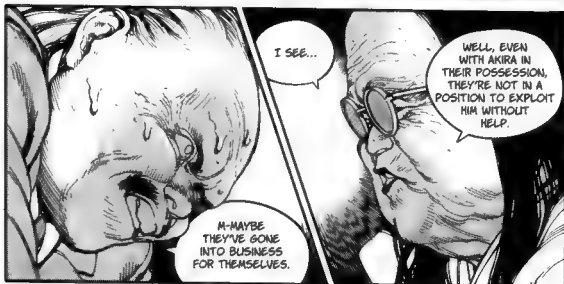


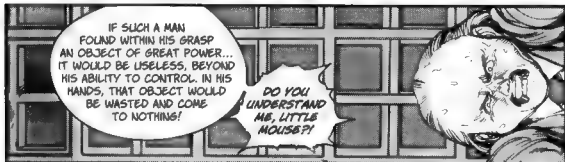




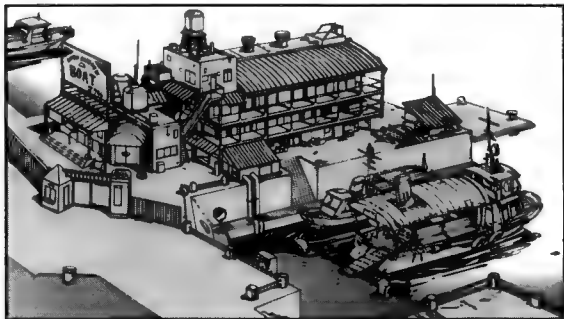
















BE CAREFUL
ON THE GANG-
PLANK.



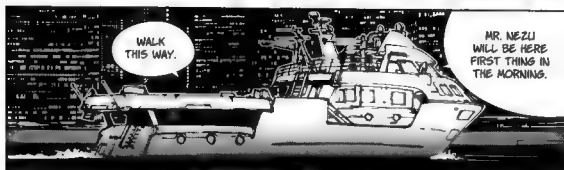
MR. NEZU
SENT ME.

SOMETHING
URGENT CAME
UP OR HE'D HAVE
MET YOU IN
PERSON.



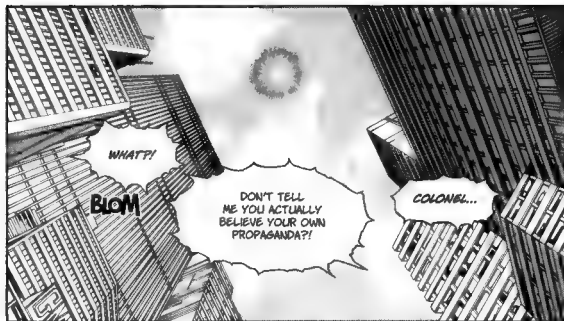
FOR THE
MOMENT...

...HE'D LIKE
YOU ALL TO
JUST REST
AND TAKE IT
EASY.



WALK
THIS WAY.

MR. NEZU
WILL BE HERE
FIRST THING IN
THE MORNING.

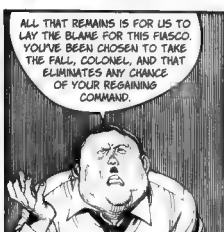
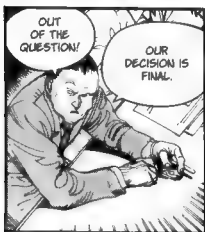


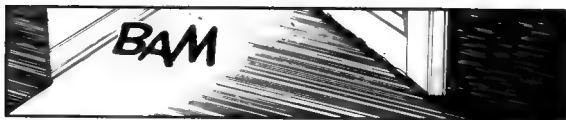
WHAT?!

BLOM

DON'T TELL
ME YOU ACTUALLY
BELIEVE YOUR OWN
PROPAGANDA?!

COLONEL...





ARROGANT
FOOLS!



"IN LIGHT OF THE
PREVAILING SOCIAL
CLIMATE WE MUST
LIFT MARTIAL LAW
BY TOMORROW"

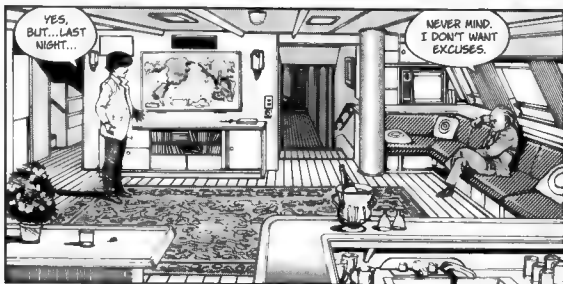
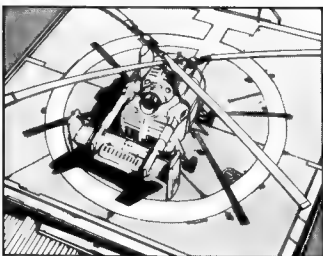
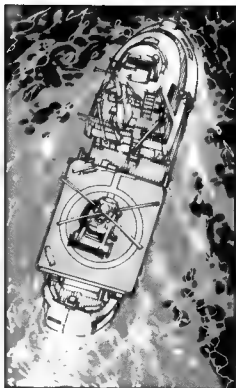
TAP

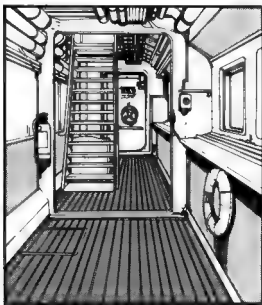
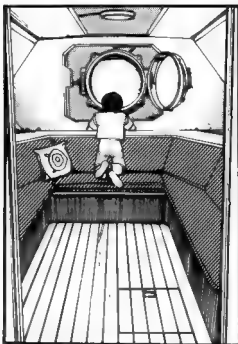
TAP
TAP



"LESS PRESSING
CONCERNS CAN WAIT
UNTIL A LATER DATE...
COLONEL, YOU WILL BE
PLACED UNDER HOUSE
ARREST. I SUGGEST
YOU TRY TO...RELAX."









AS YOU
CAN IMAGINE, I
WAS SWEATING
BULLETS...



I SWEAR LADY
MIYAKO CAN SEE
DIRECTLY INTO MY
MIND, BUT SHE DIDN'T
ACCUSE ME... NOT
DIRECTLY.



HOWEVER...

...WE HAVE LITTLE
TIME IN WHICH TO
PLAN OUR NEXT MOVE
AND A GREAT DEAL
OF RESEARCH STILL
BEFORE US!



THERE'S NO
POINT IN TAKING
CHANCES! KILL
THEM!

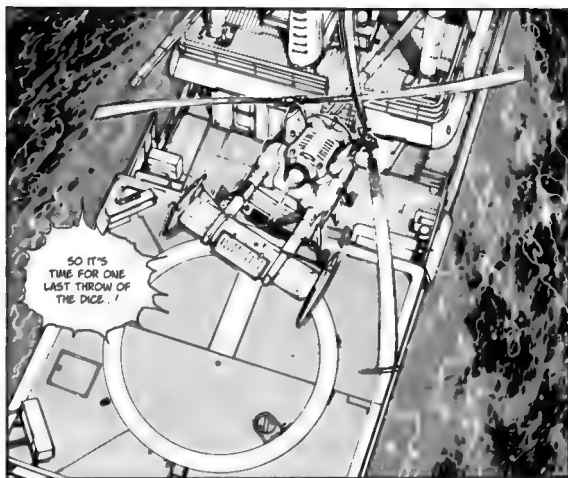
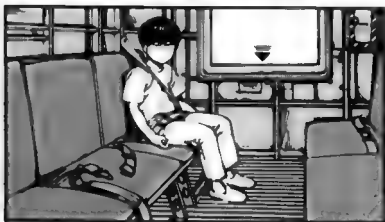


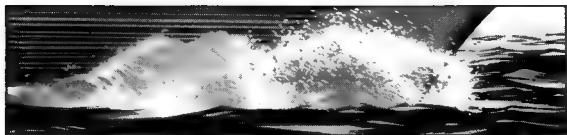
ALL
THREE OF
THEM?

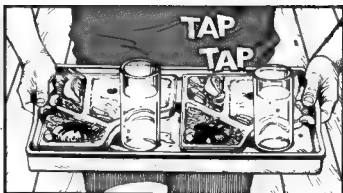
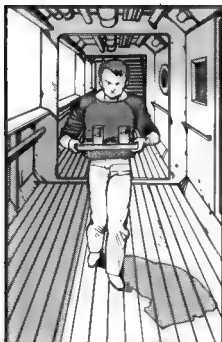


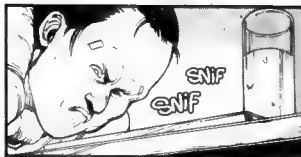
WE
HAVE NO
CHOICE!

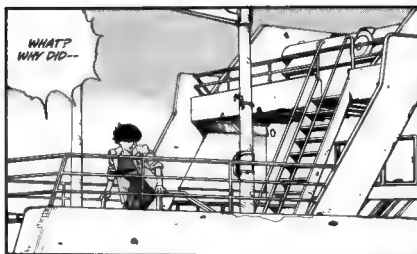
SWAP
SWAP

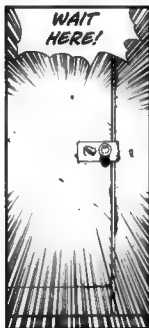




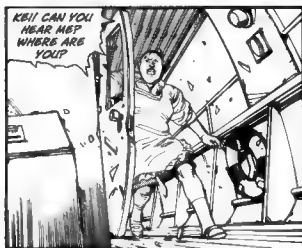




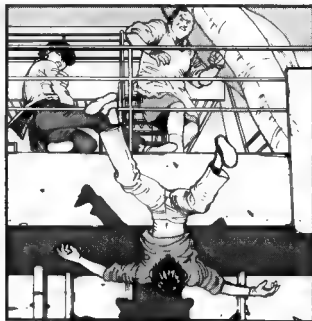


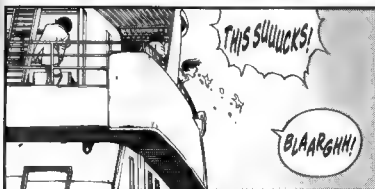
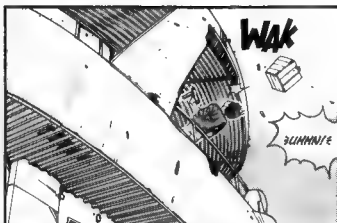


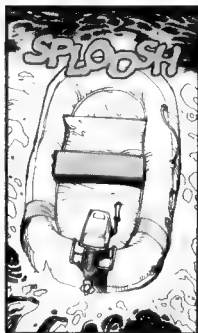
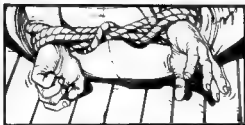


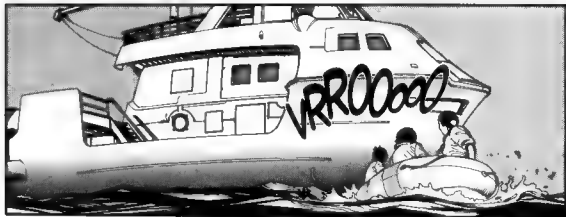




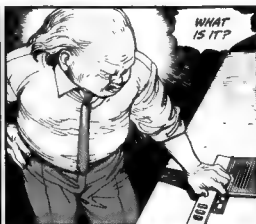
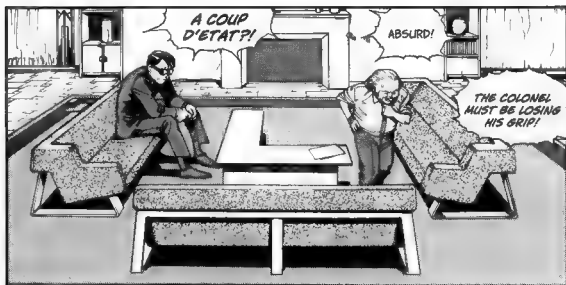


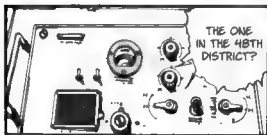


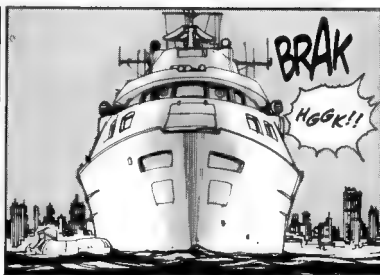


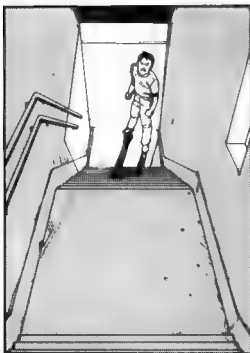


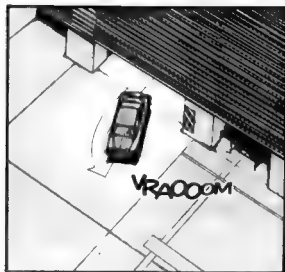
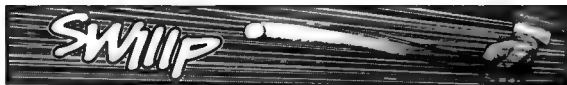


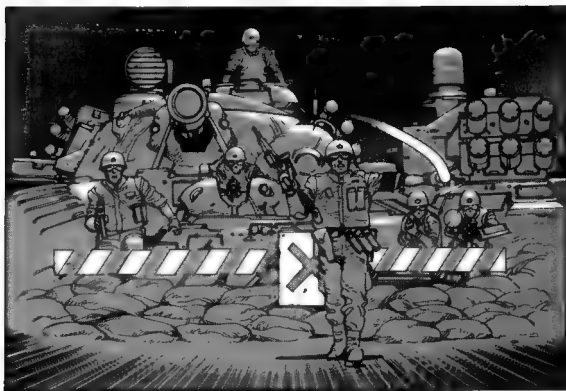


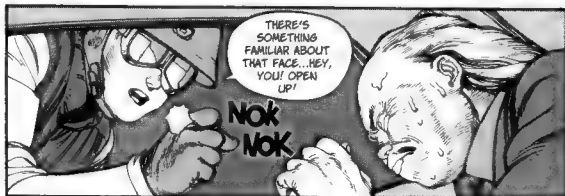
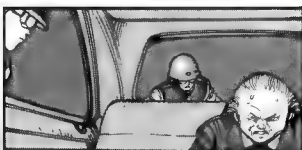


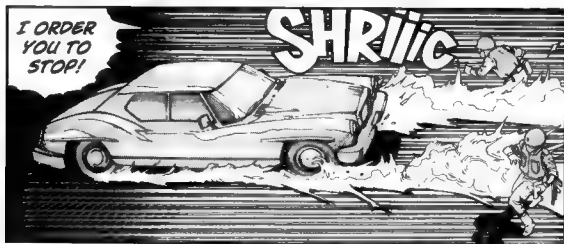


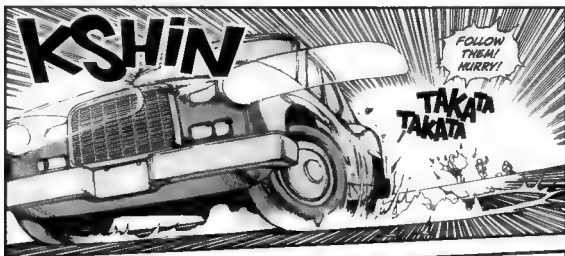


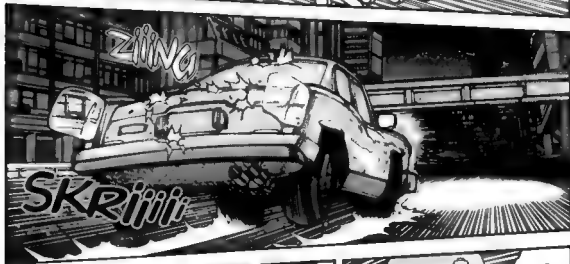
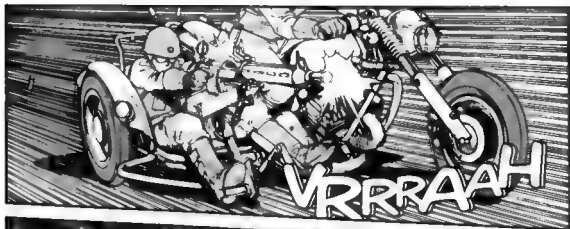


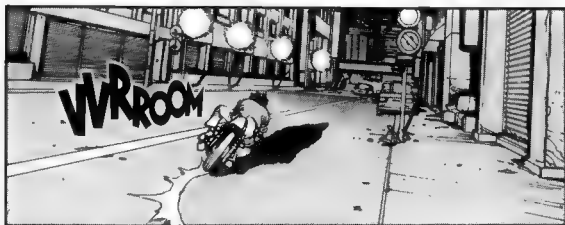
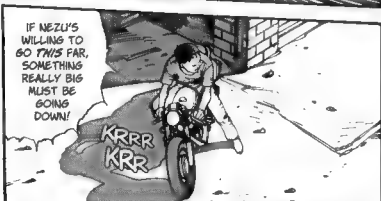
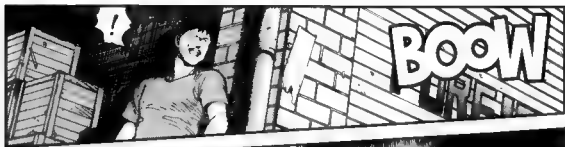


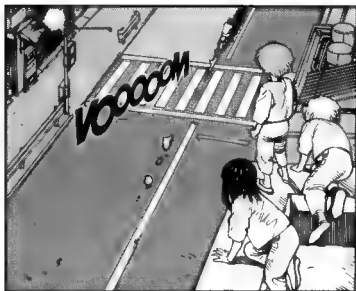












WHAT DO
YOU THINK,
SAKAKI?

CURIOUS
THAT THE
ARMY'S
GETTING
INVOLVED.

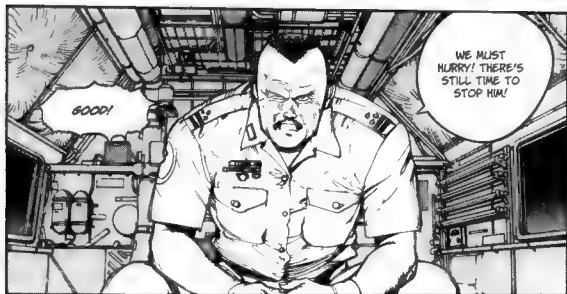
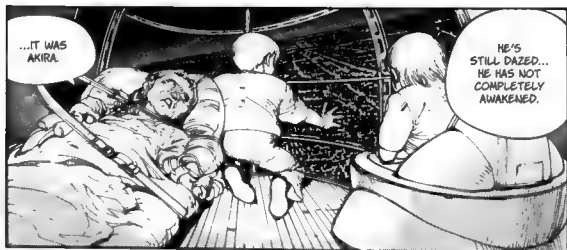
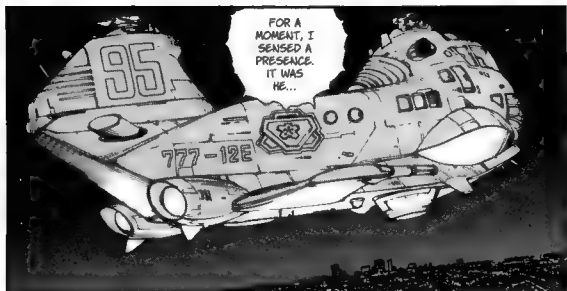


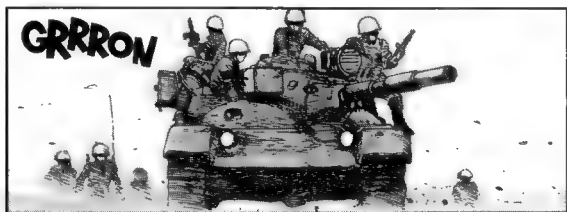
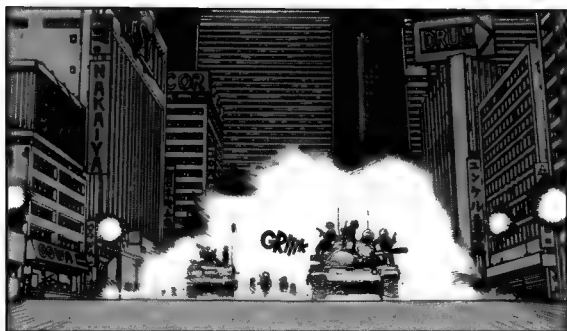
LOOKS LIKE
THEY'RE HEADING
FOR NEZU'S
HOME! LET'S
GO.

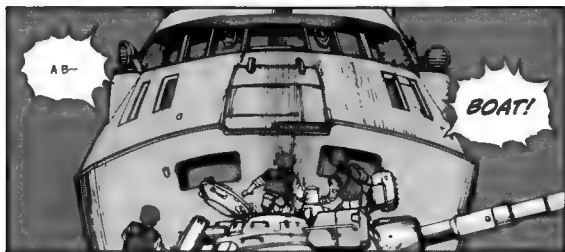
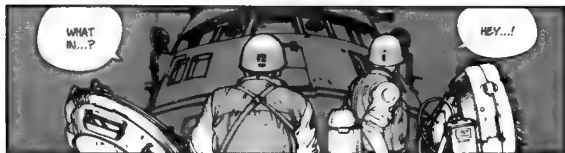
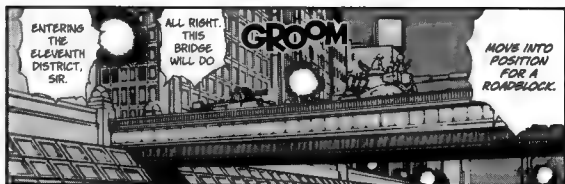
HMM.

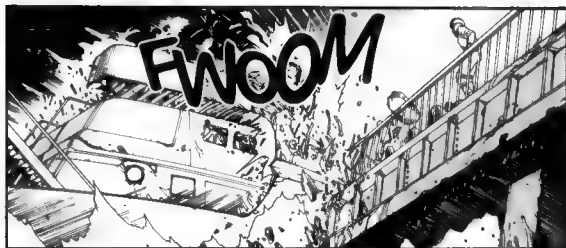
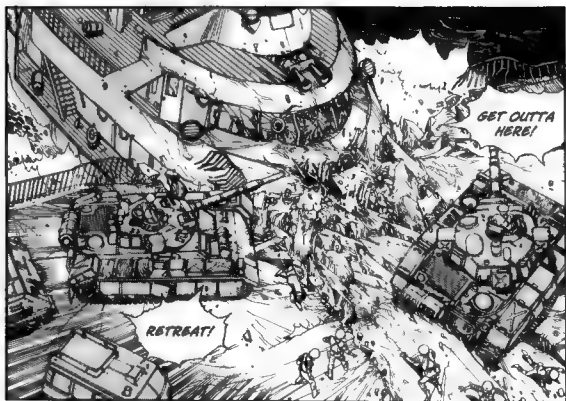


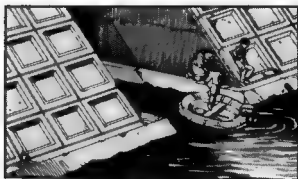
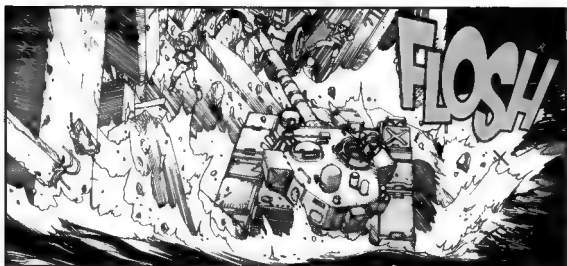
WELL? CAN
YOU FIND HIM,
KIYOKO?





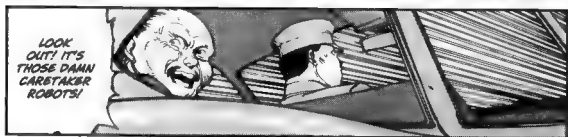
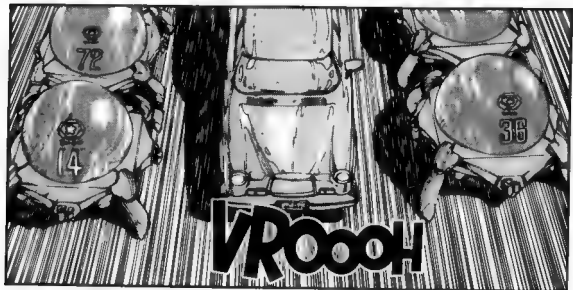
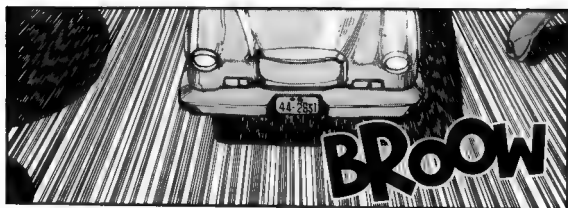


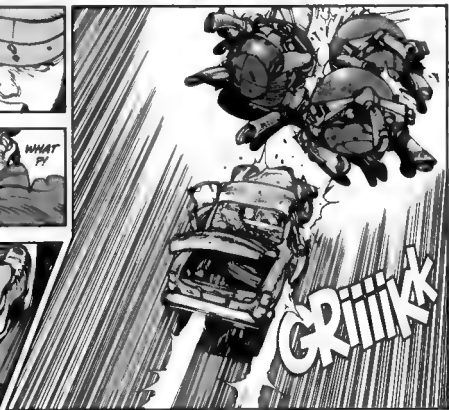
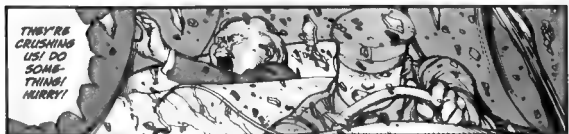
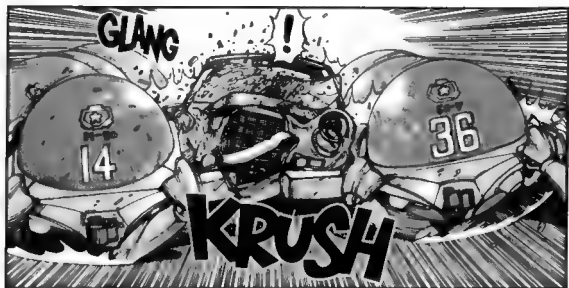


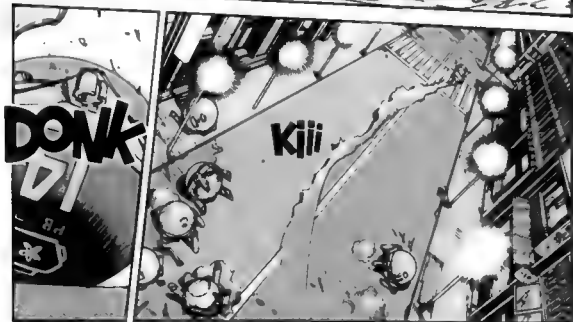
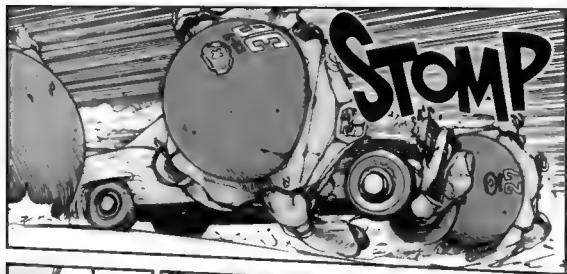




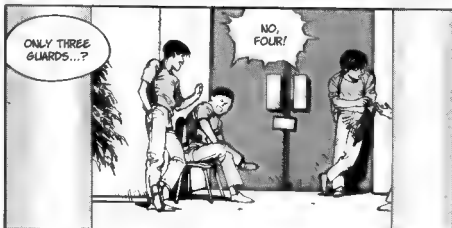
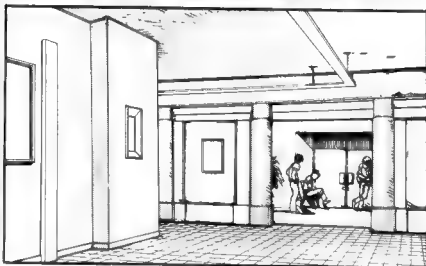


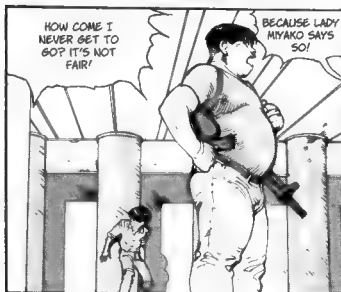
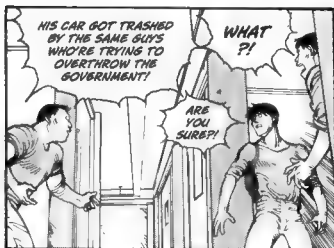


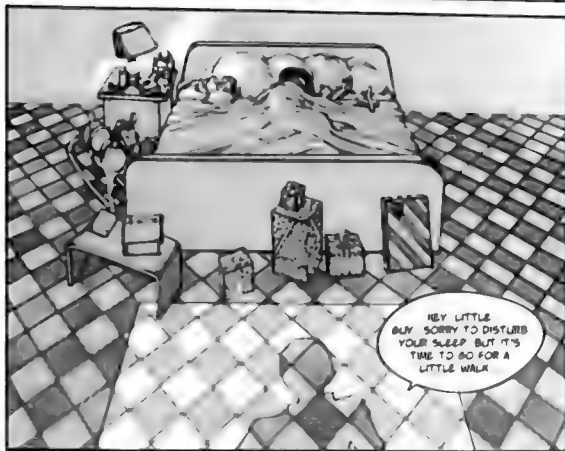
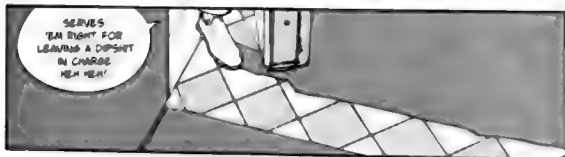


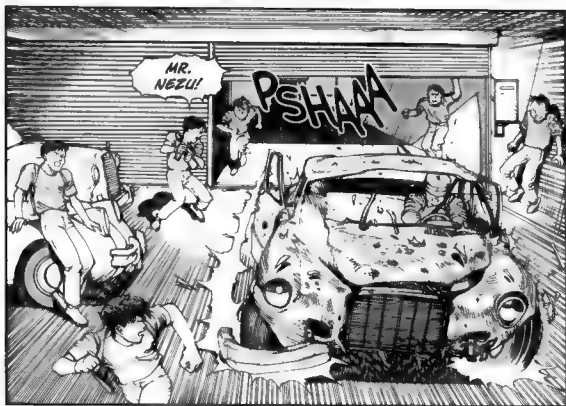
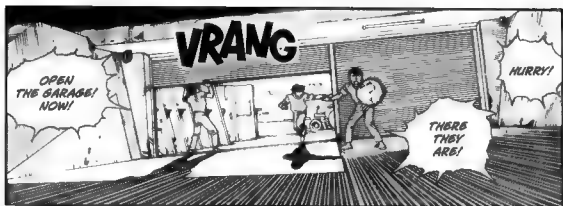


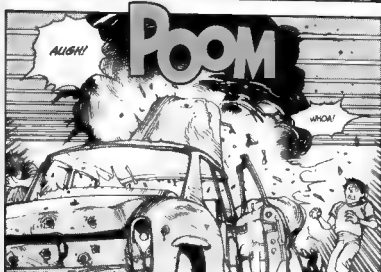
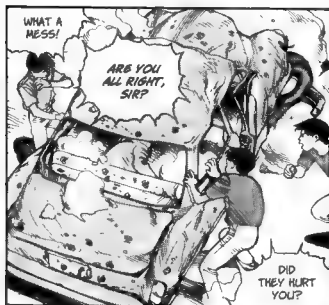


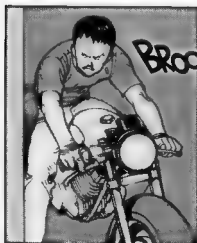


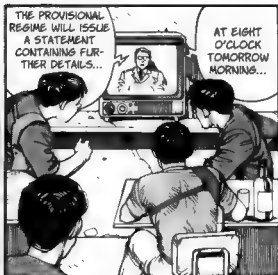
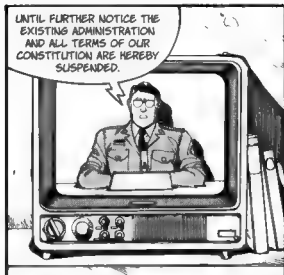


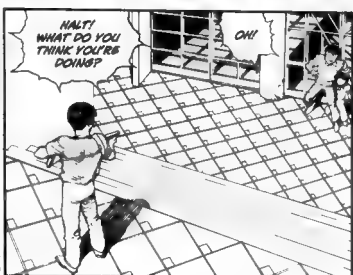


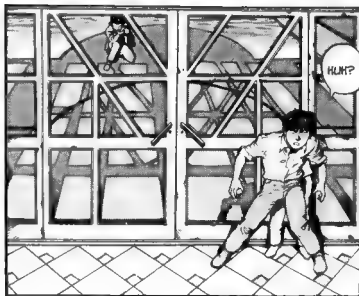


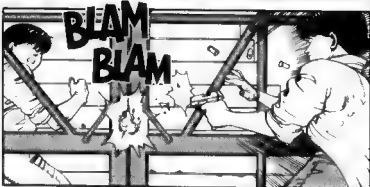
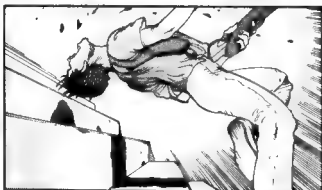


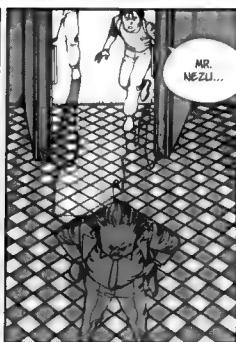
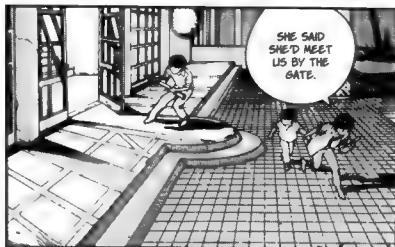




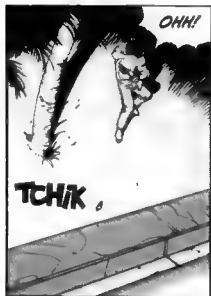


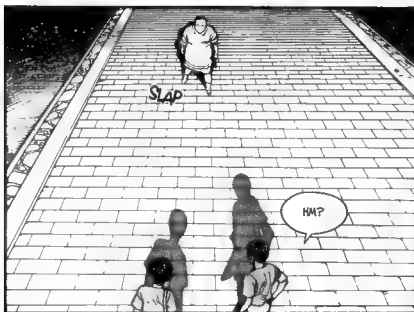
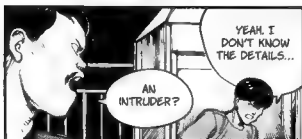
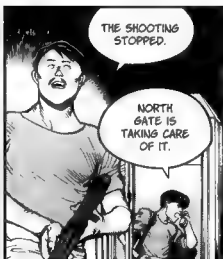




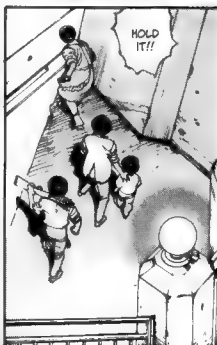
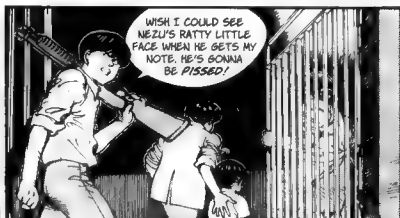
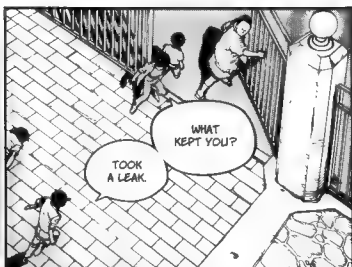


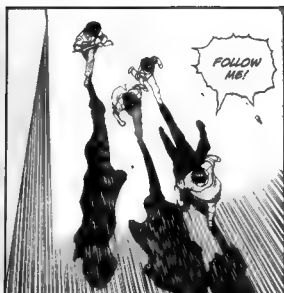






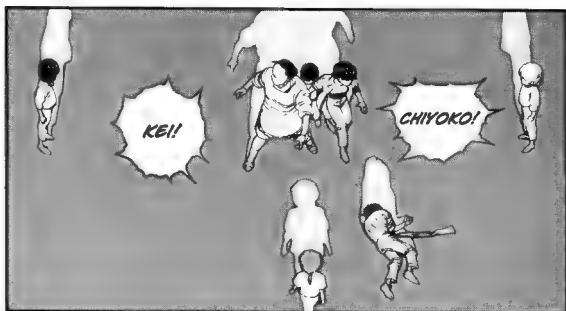


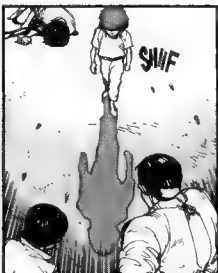


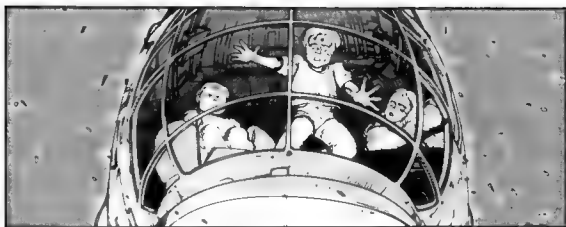
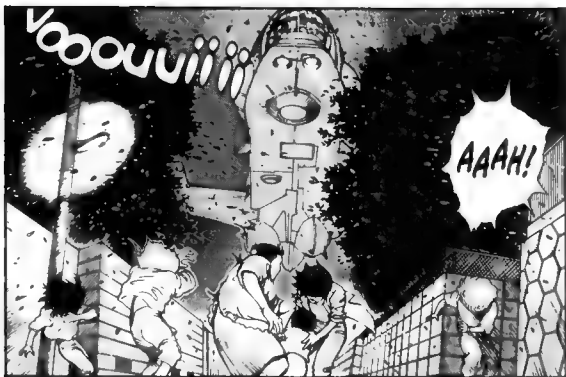
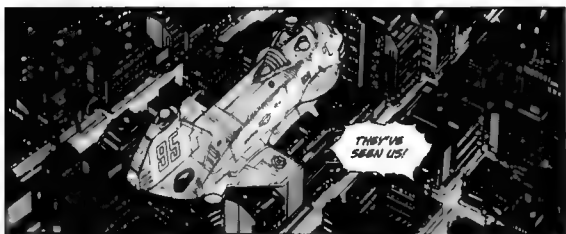


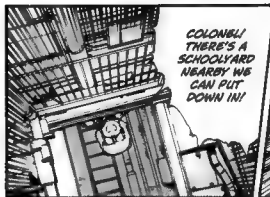


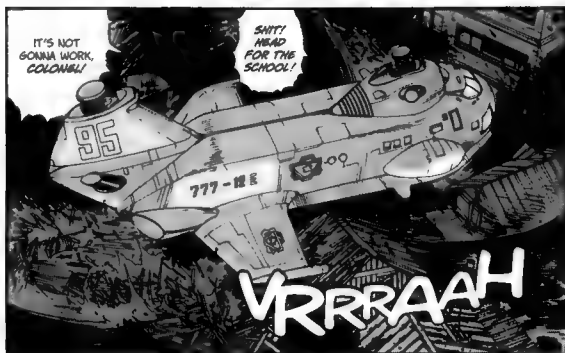








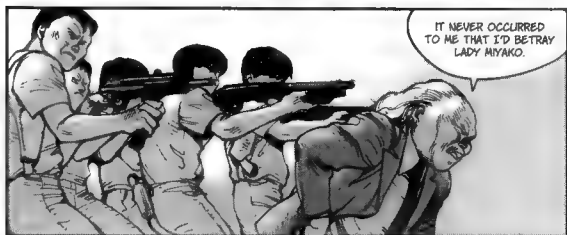
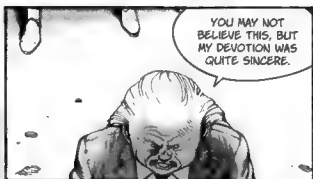
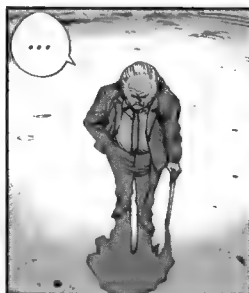
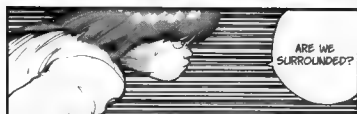


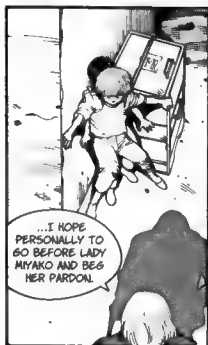




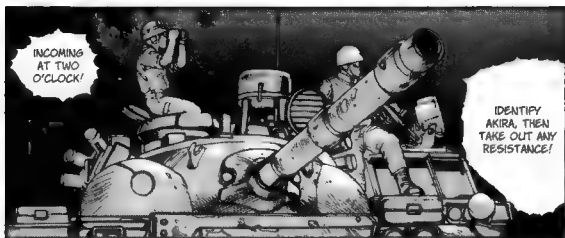
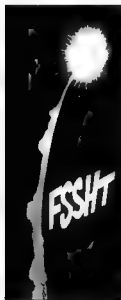




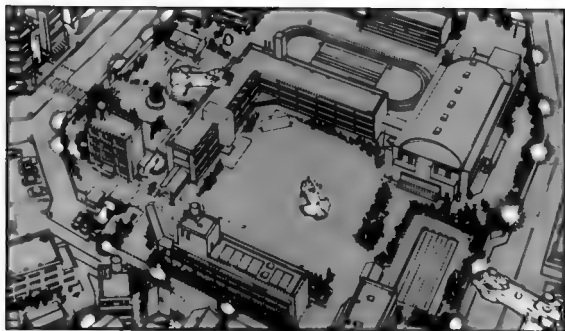


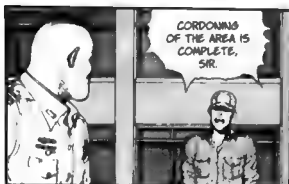
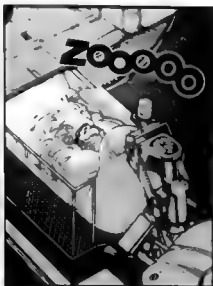


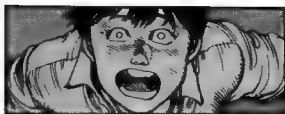
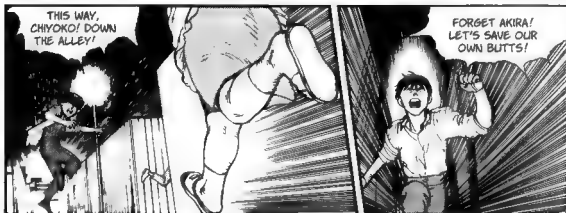


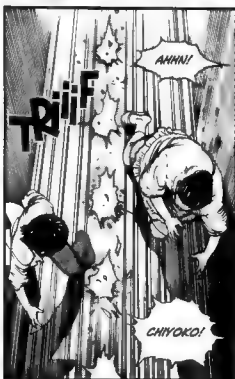
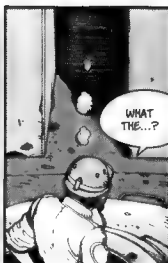


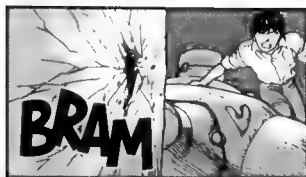
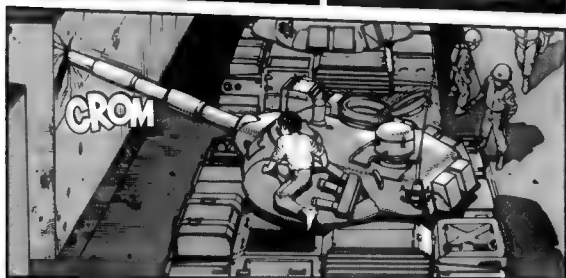


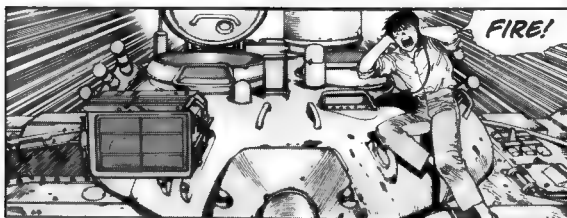
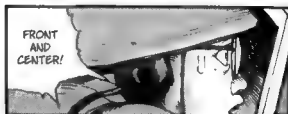










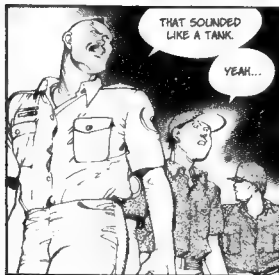




GA...
GAGA...
GAA...



NO ONE'S
GIVEN THE
ORDER TO
ATTACK!

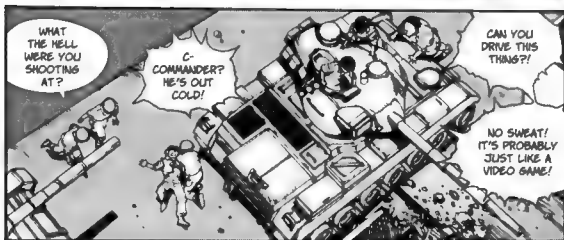
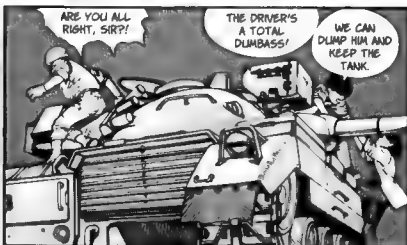


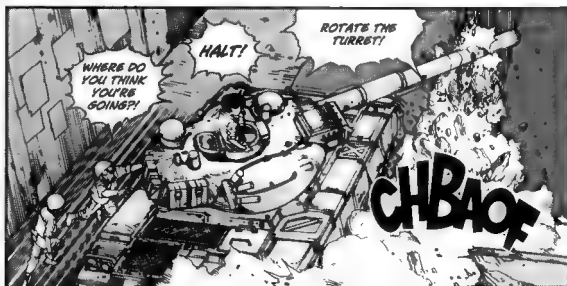
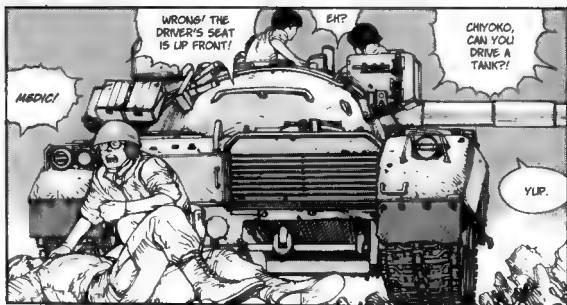
THAT SOUNDED
LIKE A TANK.

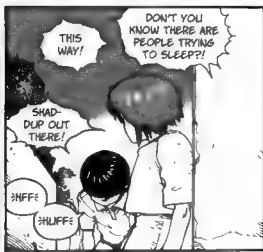
YEAH...



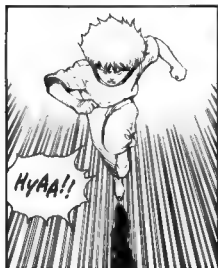
KEI,
LOOK!



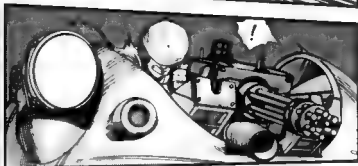
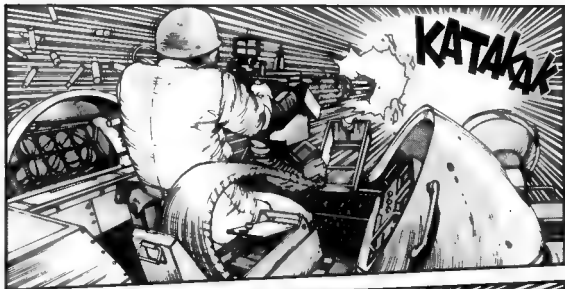


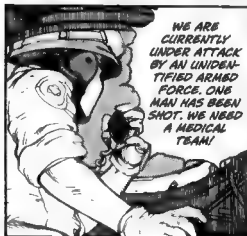
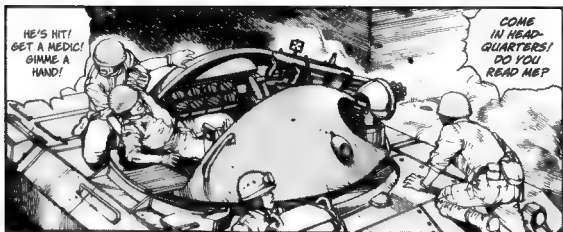


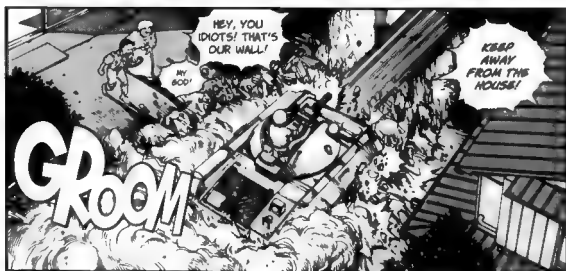


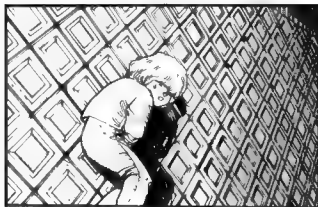


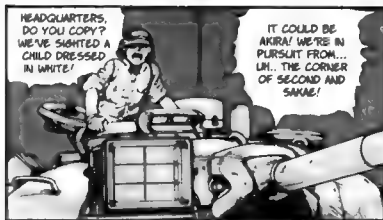
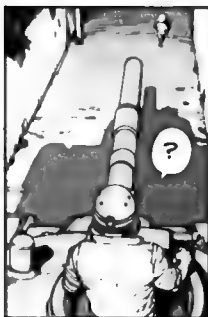


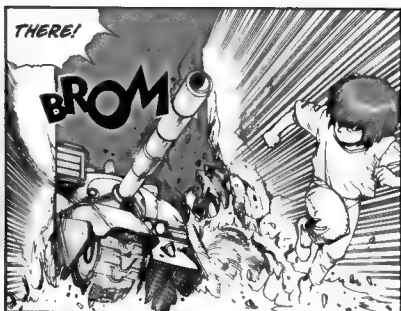


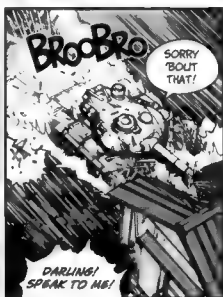














SKRASH!



COOOOOL...



TRY STAYING
ON THE ROAD NEXT
TIME, STUPID!

MO-OOM!
THE HOUSE
FELL IN!

HELP!

OH, MY
GOD!

YIPE!

COCKA-
DOODLE
DOO!

BRooo



SHIT!
IT'S ALMOST
DAWN.

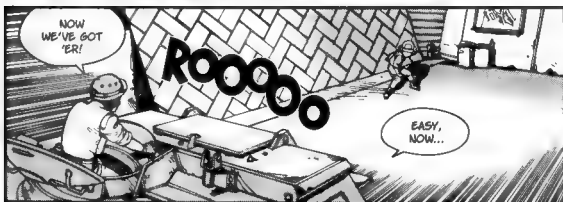
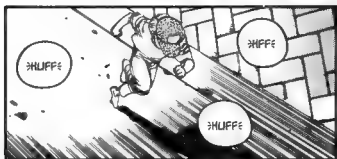
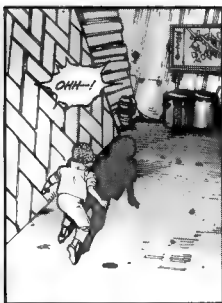


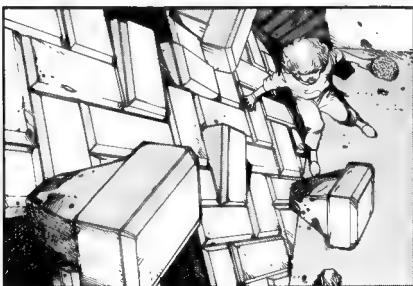
BRAM

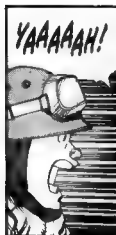


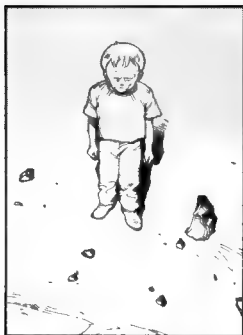
BADAM

WHAT
THE...?





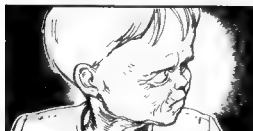


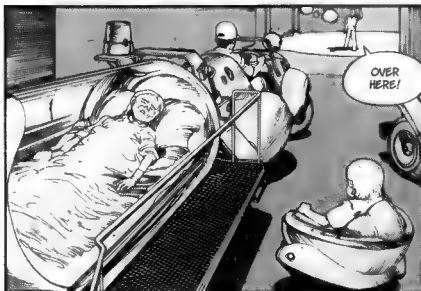
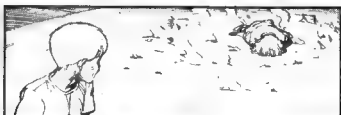
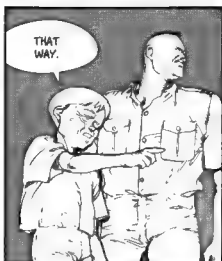










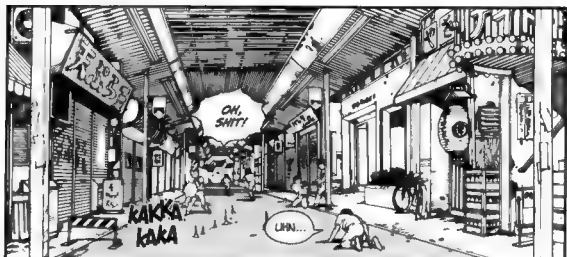


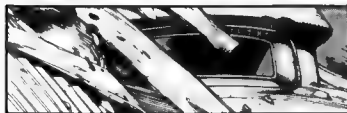




HEY!
STOP THIS
THING A
MINUTE!

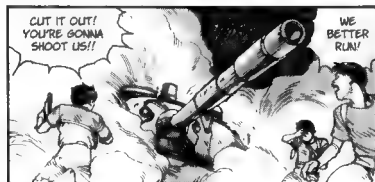




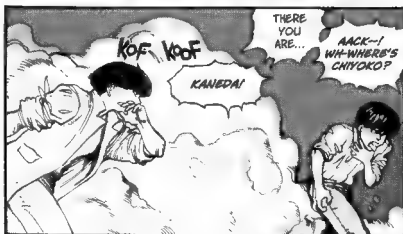


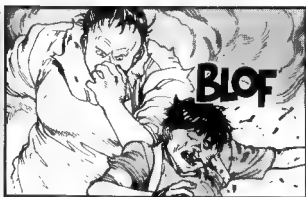


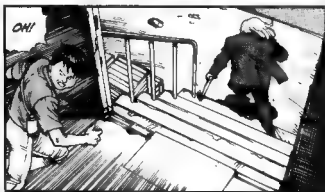
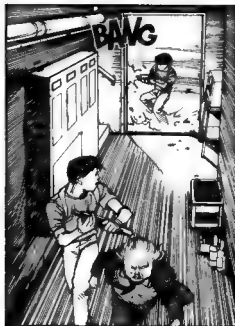


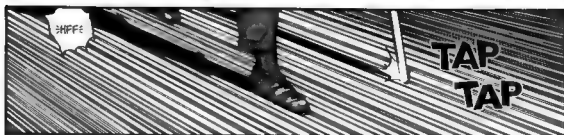


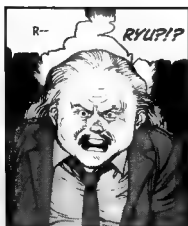


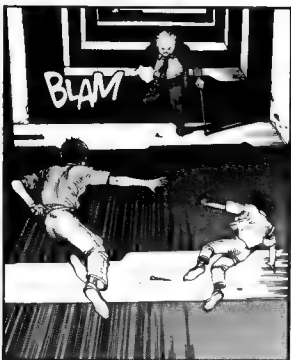






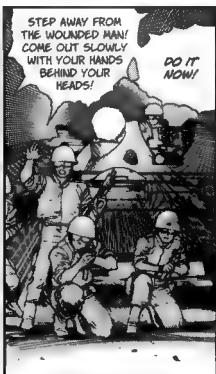
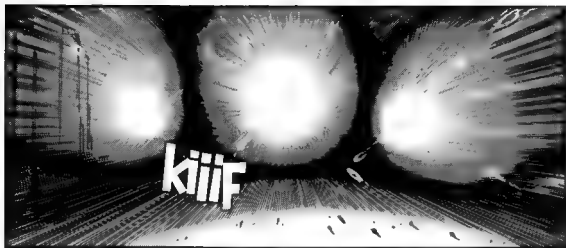


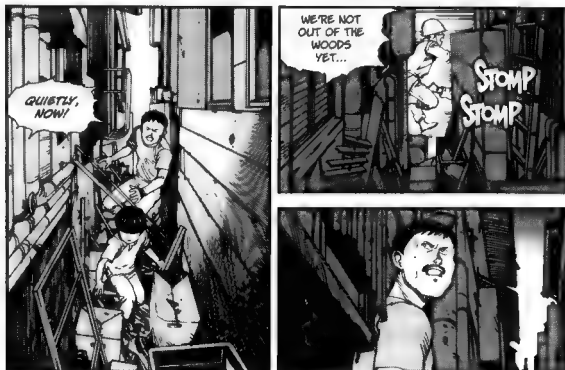
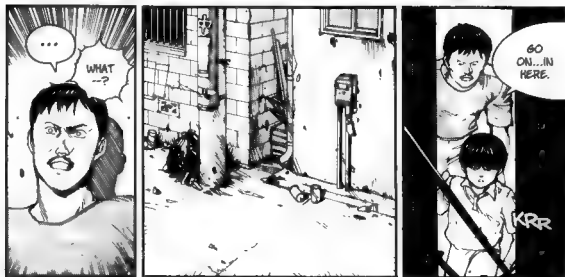


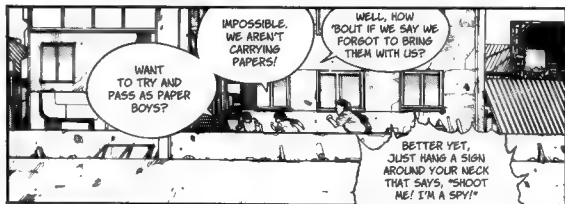




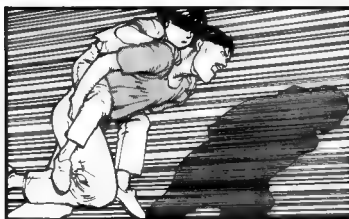
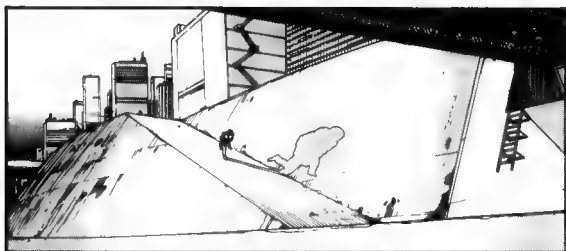
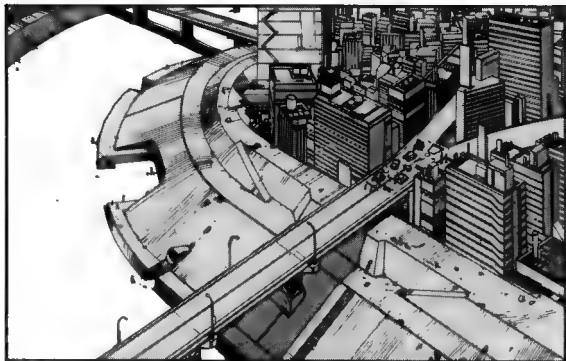


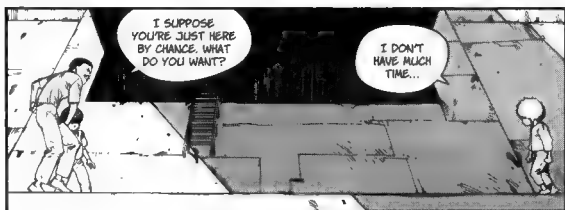
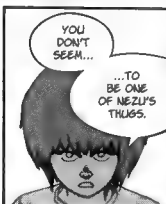
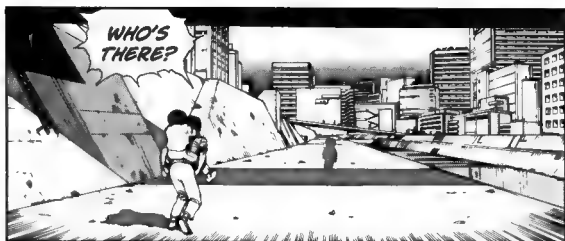


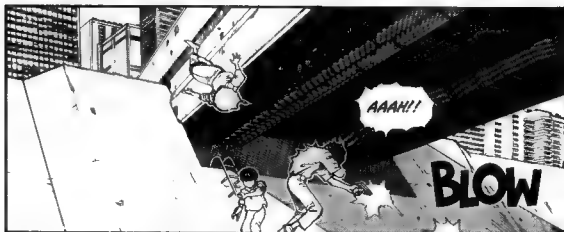




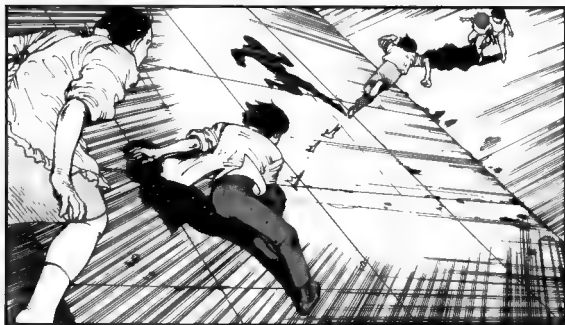




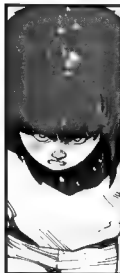




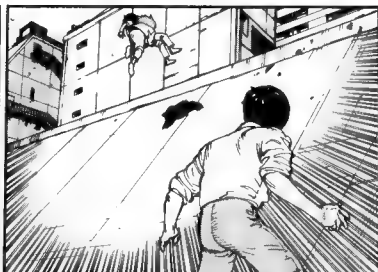


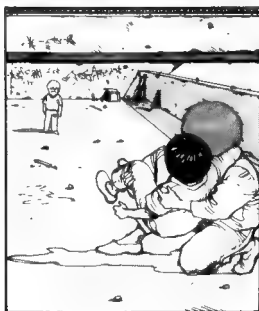


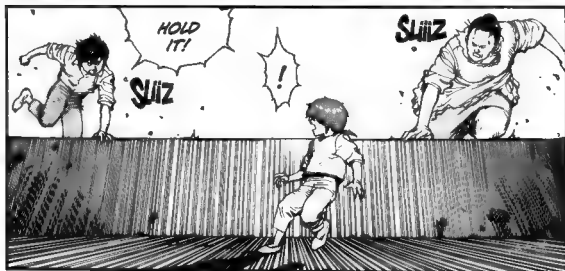
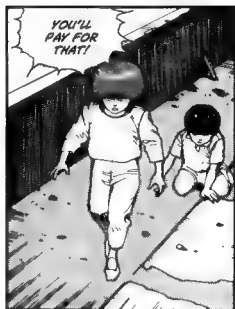




ZAKK

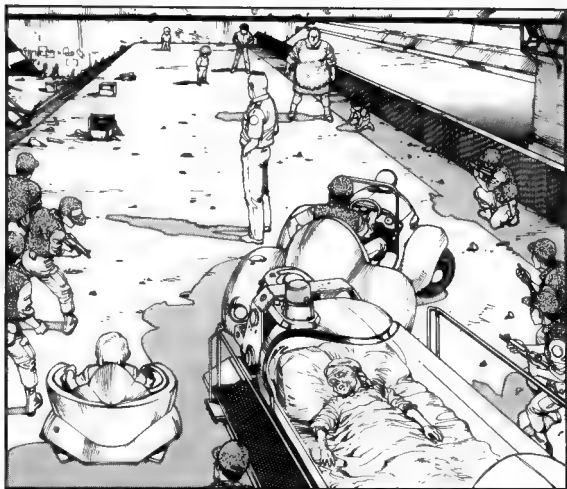




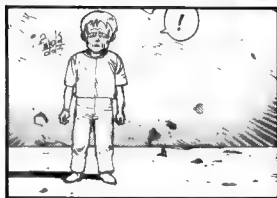


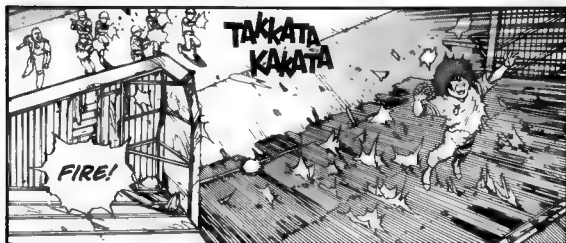
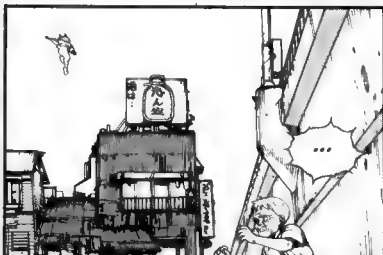




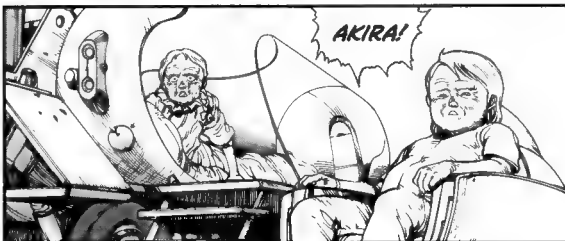
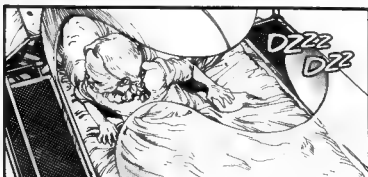




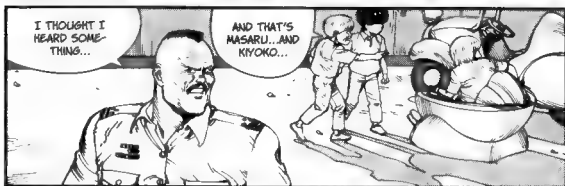
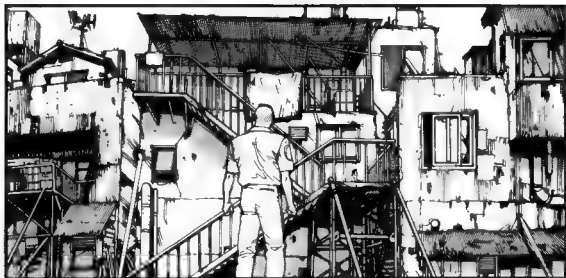




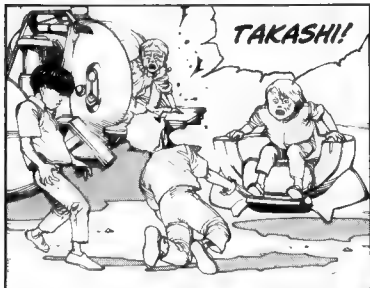




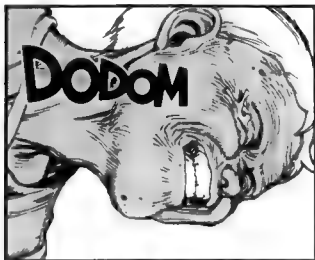


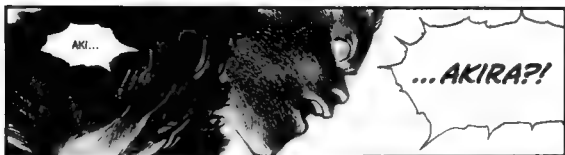
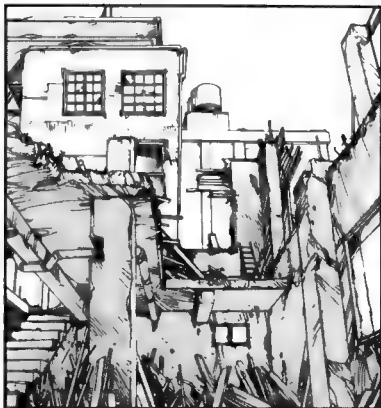


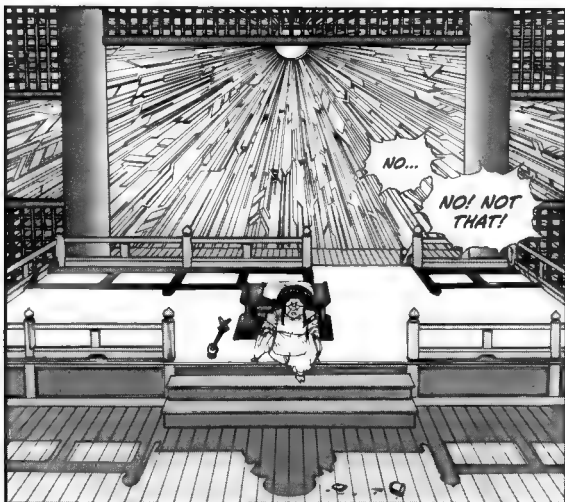
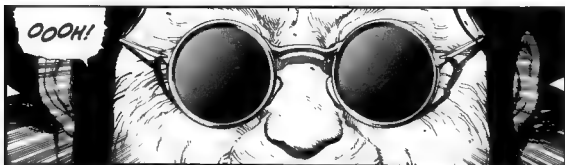




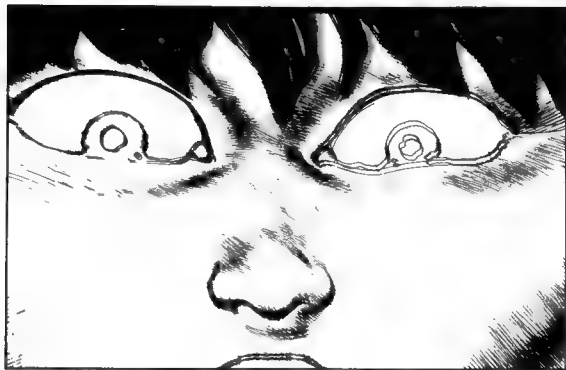


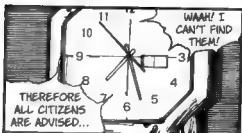
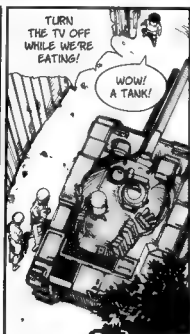
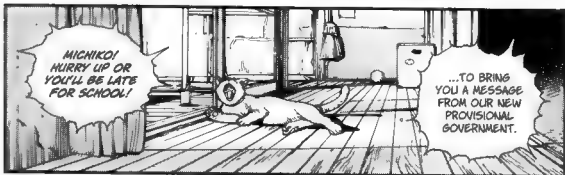


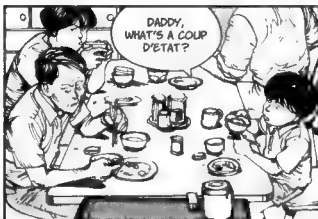
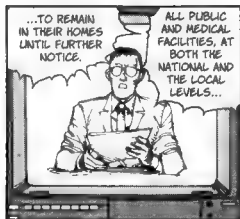


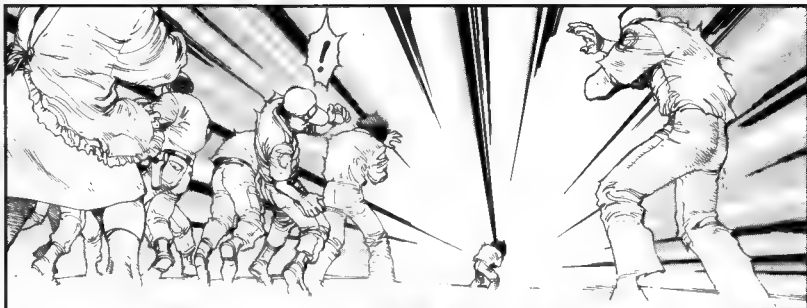
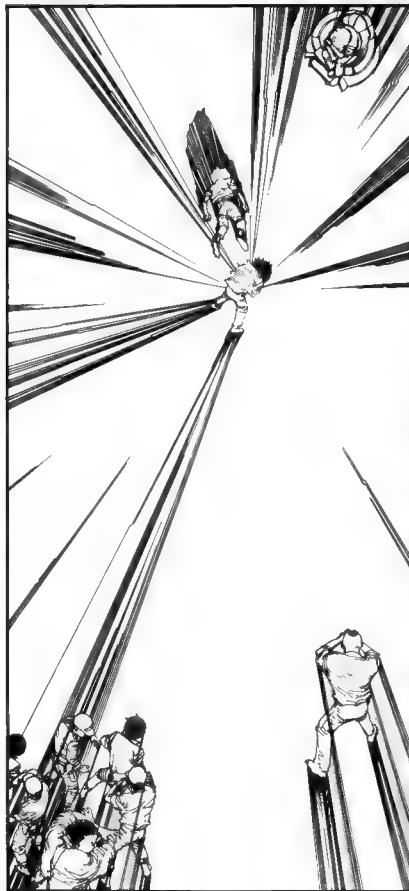












WHAT'S
GOING
ON?



THE...THE LIGHT
IS CONCENTRATED
AROUND AKIRA...!

IT'S AS IF
HE'S PULLING
IT IN!!

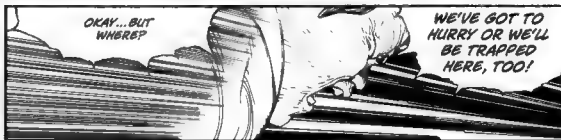


AKIRA HAS
AWAKENED!



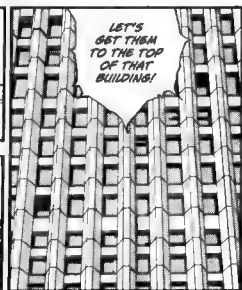
MA... MASARU!

WE NEED TO GET
THESE PEOPLE TO
A SAFE PLACE... AS
MANY OF THEM AS
POSSIBLE...

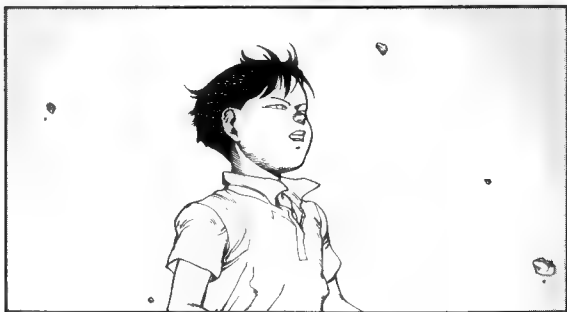
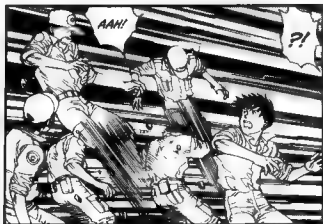
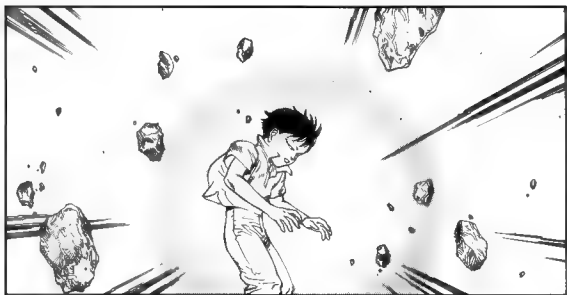


OKAY... BUT
WHERE?

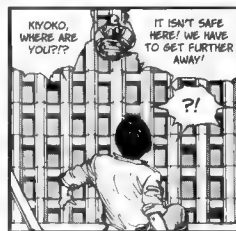
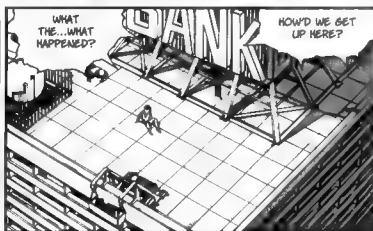
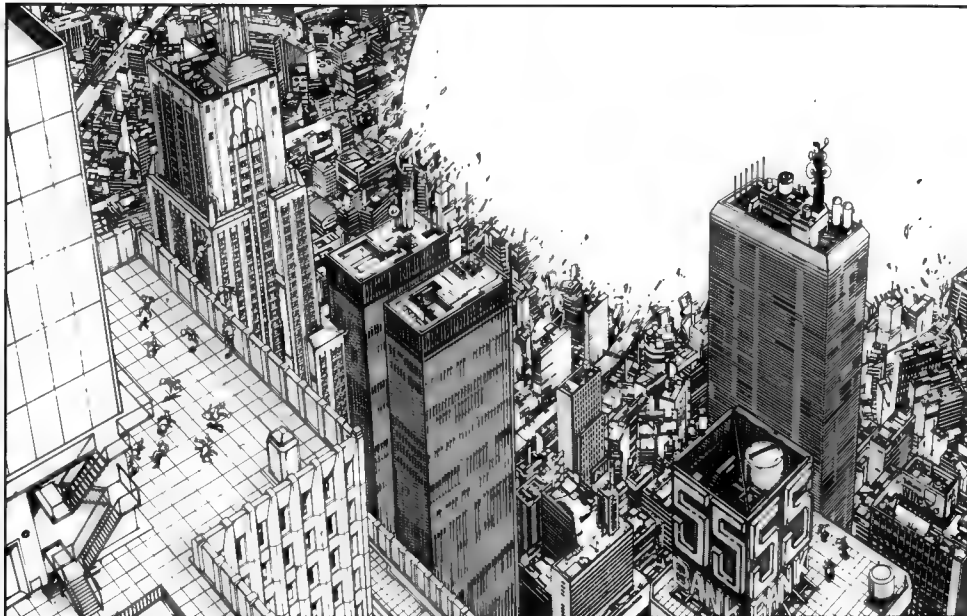
WE'VE GOT TO
HURRY OR WE'LL
BE TRAPPED
HERE, TOO!

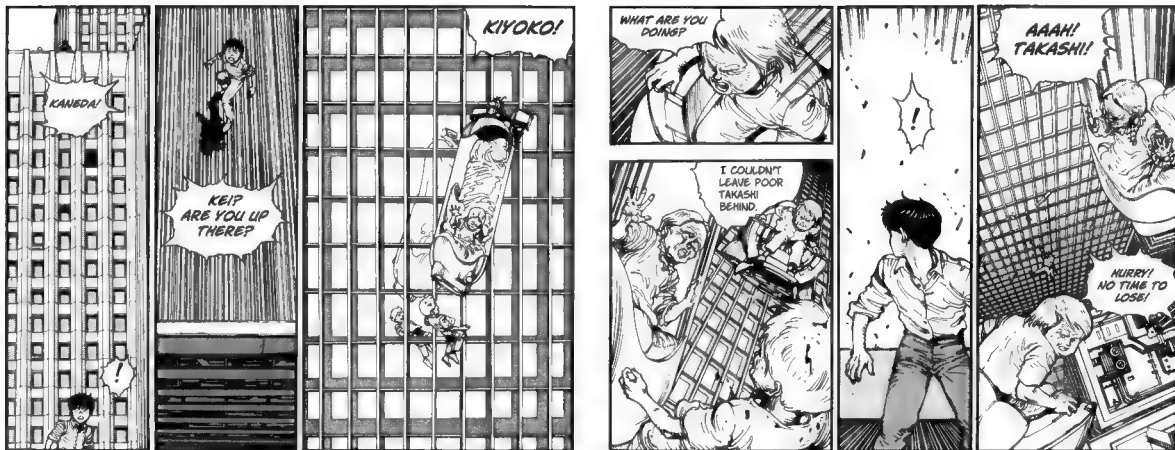


LET'S
GET THEM
TO THE TOP
OF THAT
BUILDING!

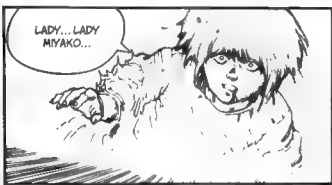
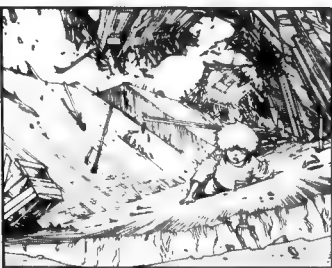
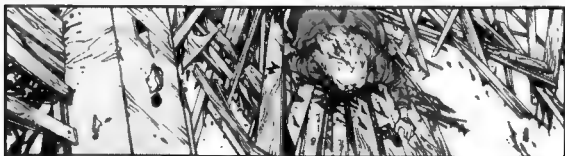








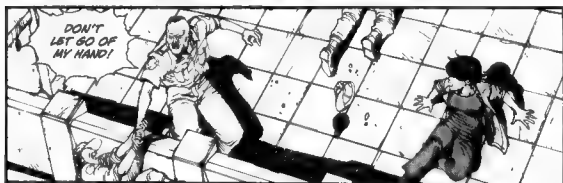
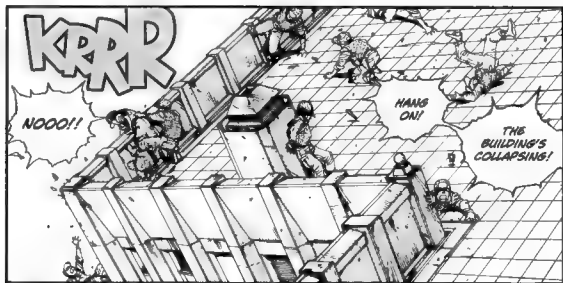


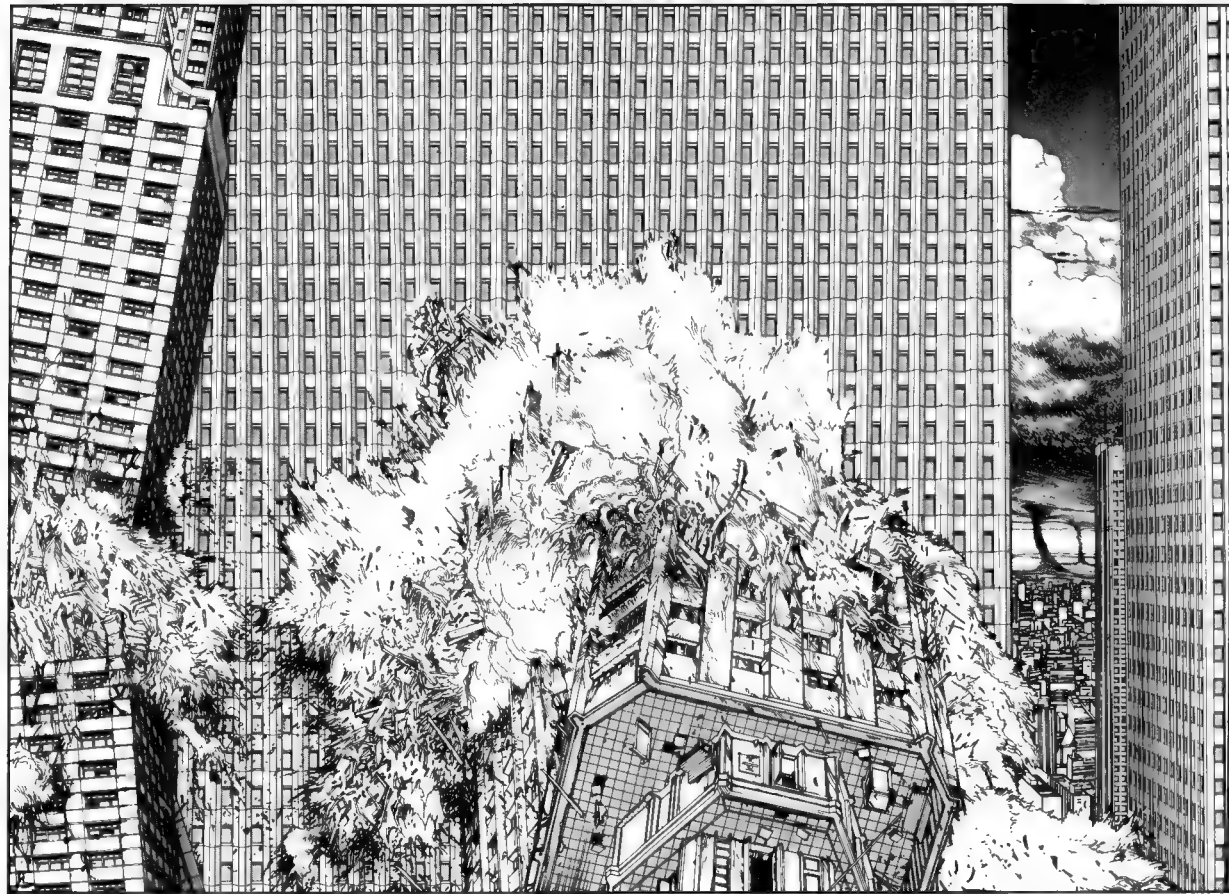


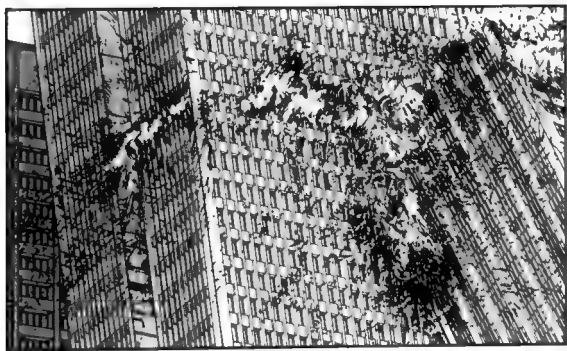


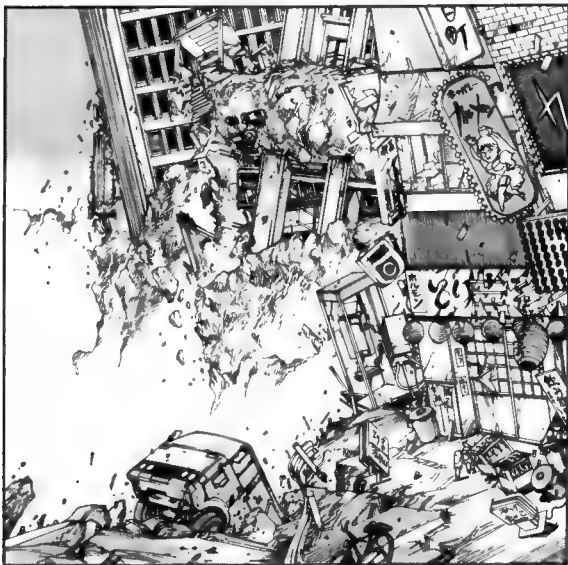
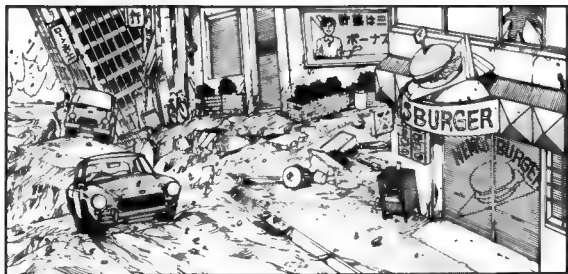




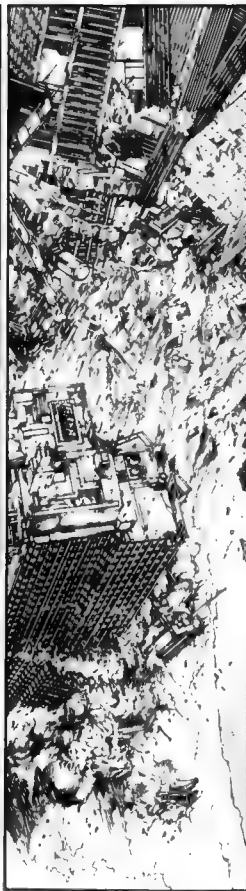
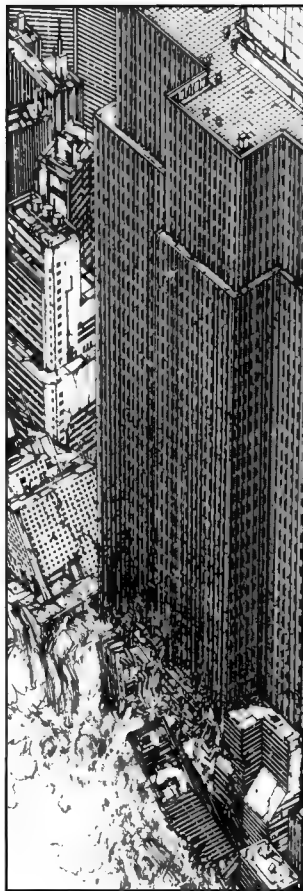




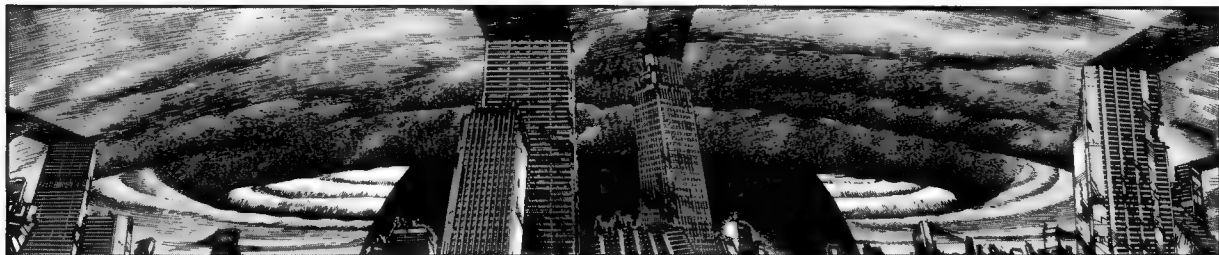
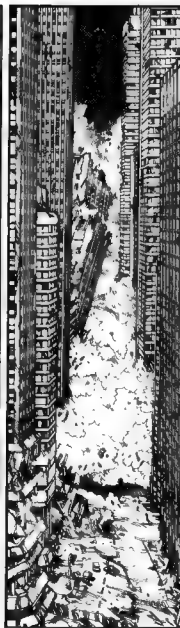
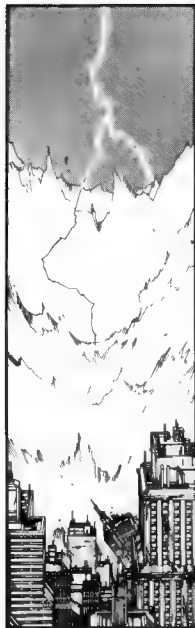


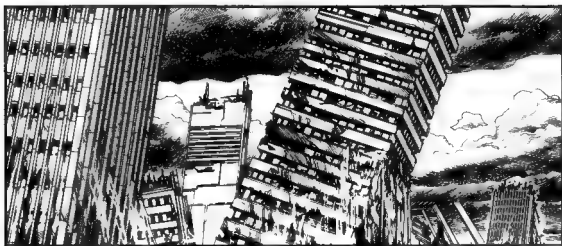






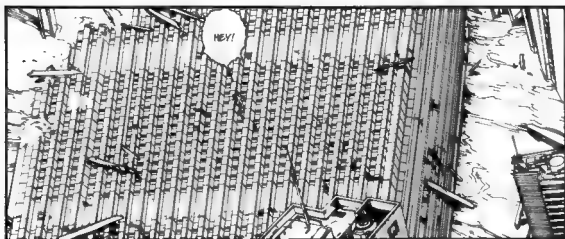


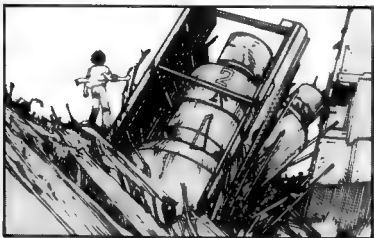
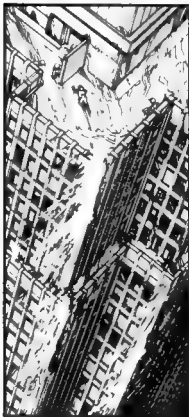


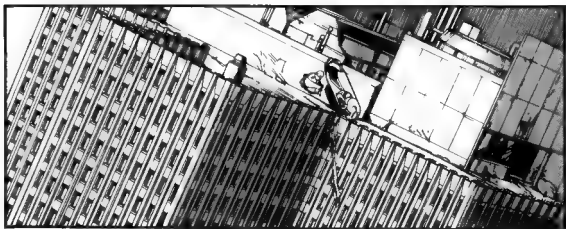


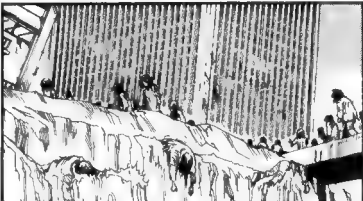
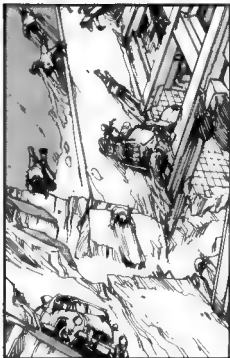


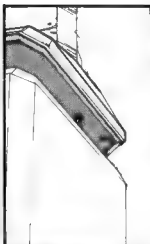






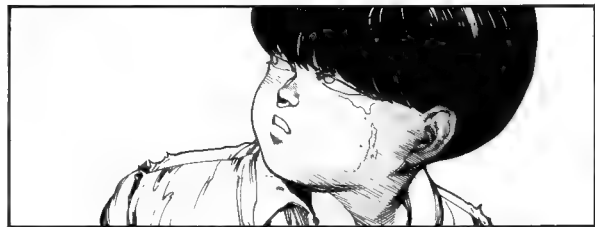


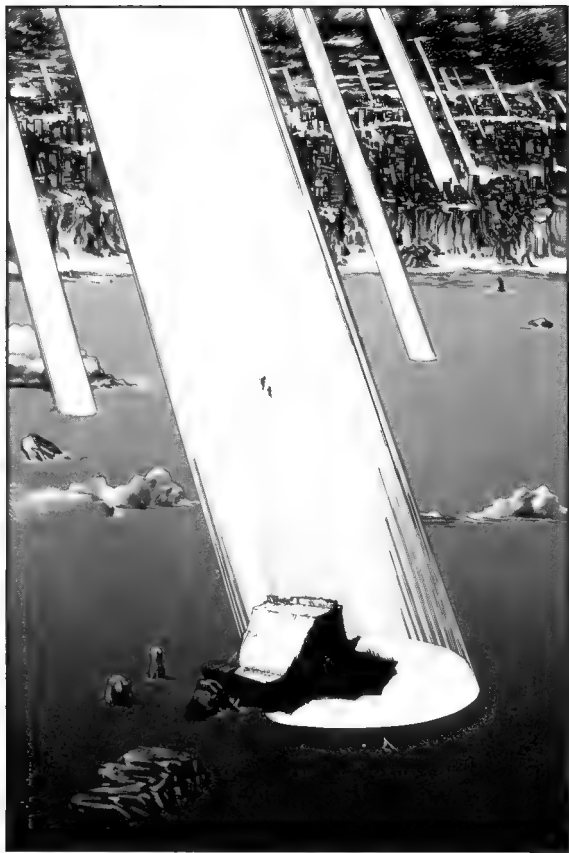














KATSUHIRO OTOMO

Katsuhiro Otomo was born in 1954 in Japan's Miyagi Prefecture, a rural province some 300 miles northeast of Tokyo. While in high school, Otomo became, in his own words, "crazy about the movies." The young artist often traveled three hours by train just to see films, and the influence of cinema is a constant thread that runs through Otomo's work.

Soon after graduating high school, Otomo moved to Tokyo with the goal of becoming a comics artist. His first professional work was *Jyu-sei* (*A Gun Report*), an adaptation of the Prosper Mérimée novella *Mateo Falcone*, which appeared in the weekly magazine *Action*. Otomo went on to create a series of short stories, usually twenty to thirty pages, challenging works that captured widespread critical acclaim in Japan. A 1980 review in the *Asahi* newspaper said, "Just as the New Cinema movement had demolished the old style of Hollywood filmmaking to usher in a fresh style of movie production in America, Katsuhiro Otomo...came to Tokyo to create a new comics style and shattered the conventions misting in manga."

In 1979, publication began on Otomo's first serialized work, *Fireball*, a story built around a "man versus computer" theme. Though the series was never completed, *Fireball* marked the beginning of Otomo's interest in science-fiction themes and was the forerunner of future work that would define his comics career and firmly establish him internationally as one of the acknowledged masters of the comics medium. *Domu*, first serialized in 1980 and collected in 1983, became a best seller and was the first manga to win the coveted Science Fiction Grand Prix Award, Japan's equivalent to America's Nebula Award. The media

attention gained from this landmark achievement made Otomo one of the best-known comics authors in Japan. Critics raved about *Domu*, a story that combined terrifying paranormal genre elements with poignant observation of urban life in modern Japan. From the *Yomiuri* newspaper: "The weirdness that lurks in the seemingly peaceful living environment of a huge housing complex symbolizes the precariousness hidden at the bottom of today's living conditions in Japan."

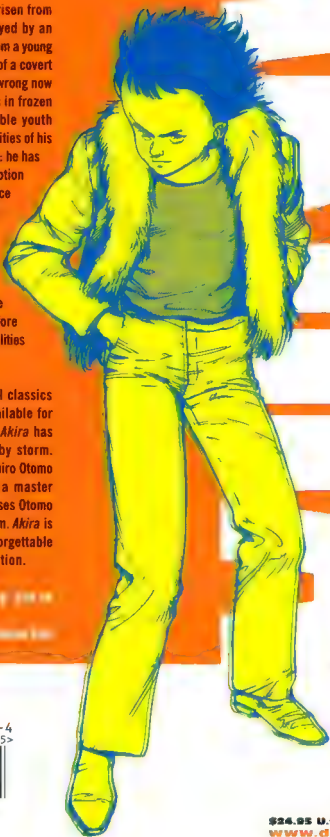
Upon completion of *Domu*, Otomo began work on *Akira*, a two-thousand-plus-page epic of staggering illustrative virtuosity and gut-wrenching thematic power. Ten years in the making and eventually collected in six volumes, *Akira* went on to win every possible award and spawned video games, an animated feature film directed by Otomo himself — compared favorably by critics to science-fiction masterpieces such as *Blade Runner* and *A Clockwork Orange* — and a blizzard of merchandising. *Akira* has been published in virtually every language and stands not only as one of the crown jewels of manga, but is regarded by many as the finest work of graphic fiction ever created, anywhere. While the completion of *Akira* marked the beginning of Otomo's moving away from comics — his only major comics work since *Akira* has been the writing of *The Legend of Mother Sarah* — it began his odyssey as a filmmaker. After completion of the animated *Akira*, Otomo has gone on to work on a variety of animated films, including *Labyrinth Stories*, *Robot Carnival*, *Roujin Z*, *Spriguan*, and *Memories*, an anthology of adaptations of earlier Otomo comics stories. Otomo also directed the live-action *World Apartment Horror* as well as television commercials for Honda, Suntory, and Canon. Otomo lives and works in Tokyo.

IN THE 21ST CENTURY,

the glittering Neo-Tokyo has risen from the rubble of a Tokyo destroyed by an apocalyptic telekinetic blast from a young boy called Akira — a subject of a covert government experiment gone wrong now imprisoned for three decades in frozen stasis. But Tetsuo, an unstable youth with immense paranormal abilities of his own, has done the unthinkable: he has released Akira and set into motion a chain of events that could once again destroy the city and drag the world to the brink of Armageddon. Resistance agents and an armada of government forces race against the clock to find the child with godlike powers before his unstoppable destructive abilities are unleashed!

One of the true international classics of graphic fiction and unavailable for nearly a decade in America, *Akira* has once again taken America by storm. Artist/writer/filmmaker Katsuhiro Otomo is acclaimed worldwide as a master storyteller, and *Akira* showcases Otomo at the peak of his creative form. *Akira* is a timeless, epic work of unforgettable beauty, horror, and imagination.

ISBN 1-56971-525-4



アキラ



AKIRA

3

KATSUHIRO
OTOMO



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4

KATSUHIRO OTOMO



AKIRA

KATSUHIRO OTOMO



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AKIRA BOOK FOUR

THE STORY SO FAR

Twenty-eight years after a catastrophic explosion levels Tokyo and triggers World War III, Neo-Tokyo prepares for the first postwar Olympic games, a stadium being erected on the original blast site. While waiting an illegal run into the area, a motorcycle gang led by Kaneda encounters an aged and ailing child with Kamenite powers, power and the summer of '68 followed on his peak. Kaneda's friend Tetsuo is injured and the child escapes. The military arrives and thinks Tetsuo for medical attention. Later, Kaneda meets the beautiful Kai, part of an underground group opposed to Neo-Tokyo's new order. A second meeting with 26 scabblers may mean his life as he is arrested.

Meanwhile, Reza, the resistance leader, meets with Ryū, who reports of suspicious military activity at a site adjacent to the Olympic stadium. He is dismissed by Lady Miyako, a mystic figure who shares visions of an impending disaster that cannot be averted. Akira's awakening draws closer.

Tetsuo's power grows as an astonishing raw, released by the self-healing of his nearly perfect wound. Tetsuo inherits of Akira and the other psychics, and he becomes acquainted with facing them. The children, sensing Tetsuo's potential, help him. Akira, the last child, is in a secret army where they prepare a laser rifle to destroy Tetsuo. Tetsuo finds and captures the children, who are with the Colonel. Tetsuo recognizes Number 28 and recruits the children, whose powers are superior to his. Tetsuo demands to meet Akira. Kai and Kaneda crash the party and attack Tetsuo with the laser. Impervious to pain, Tetsuo collapses rubble. Tetsuo falls from the skyscraper facility and plunges to the ground below, but is completely unharmed.

When Reza reveals Tetsuo's immense psychic potential, the Colonel takes him to a special facility where yet another child (paranormal) is held. Tetsuo is the awakening of Akira, a boy whose genetic psychic abilities destroyed Japan. Number 28 of a secret experiment gone wrong, Akira sleeps in a space suit in a computer deep beneath the Olympic site.

Living around and unable, Tetsuo's desire for power suddenly switches on and, stopped in growing pain, he escapes the facility, leaving a trail of death. Following the streets in anger, Tetsuo awakens a rival gang member in a giant psychic explosion and the terrified gang crown him superhuman, naming their new leader. The resistance moves in a violent campaign against the other kids' gangs. Kaneda organizes the gangs in light back, and Tetsuo dispatches them. Killer Tetsuo's friend Yamagata betrays, Kaneda meets Tetsuo, who unleashes a storm of destruction. The Colonel's force arrive to find the wounded Tetsuo screaming for help in his pain. Kaneda rescues Tetsuo, and in the struggle the mystery super-

power draws from his pocket, Tetsuo swallows it and goes into a massive seizure, but miraculously survives. His pain is ended. The Colonel orders to supply Tetsuo with the drug and training to only utilize his power. Tetsuo, realizing he has the alternative, becomes Number 1. The Colonel takes Tetsuo, Kaneda and Kai to the laboratory facility and separates Kaneda and Kai.

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The chamber cracks and releases deadly white smoke, releasing, leaving Kai, Kaneda, and surviving troops to flee the facility. Tetsuo, released by the lethal child, reaches the chamber. The child attacks him and Akira escapes, fleeing after his escape, long sleep. Tetsuo looks like child to the outside world. Forty-wide alert goes into effect as the Colonel's emergency is last-ditch plan to stop the drive by using the laser cannon of the military satellite S.O.L. to gun down Tetsuo and Akira. The weapon vents fire and the terrible heat melts Tetsuo's arm, leaving it to shreds. Kai and Kaneda find Akira and discover the history and the sanctuary in the home of Chiyoaki, a powerful woman allied with the resistance.

Warrior law goes into effect, and panic runs the streets. Everyone wants to find Akira, and fearfully remains in capture him, in theory. He is the last child, the last child, the last child. Chiyoaki takes Kai, Kaneda, and Akira to the city. A temporary settlement. But Reza betrays them and Lady Miyako by taking Akira and ordering his men to destroy Chiyoaki, Kaneda, and Kai. Only Chiyoaki's strength and fighting skills — and a little well-placed bomb by Bismarck Kaneda — keep the hero alive. Kaneda, who has been in Reza's hands, is free. He is the last child, the last child, the last child.

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The artwork of this volume has been produced as a mirror image of the original Japanese edition to conform to English-language standards.

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KANEDA



TETSUO



KEI



RYŪ



TAKASHI



THE COLONEL



MASARU



KIYOKO



REZU



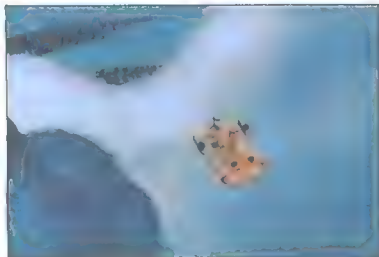
LADY MIYAKO



CHIYOKI



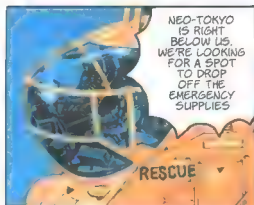
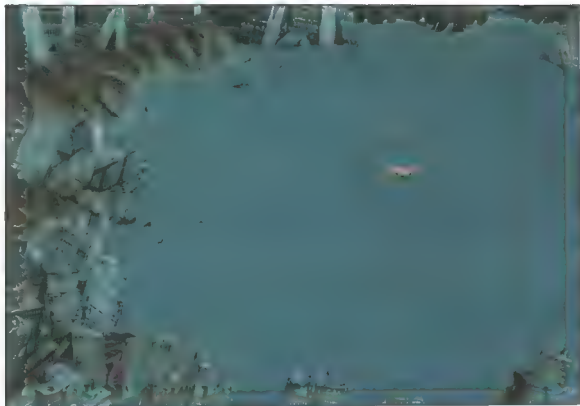
AKIRA

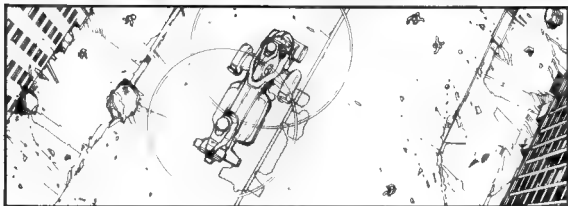
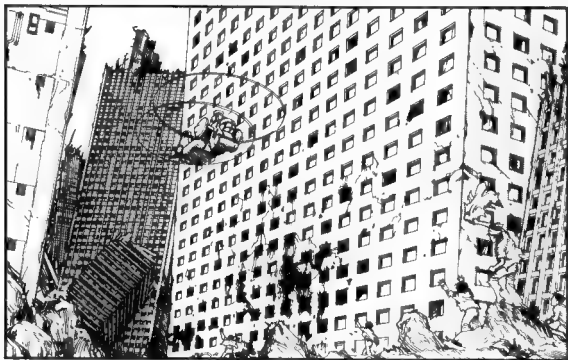
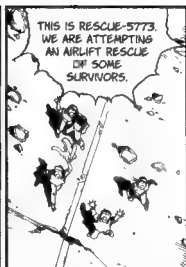


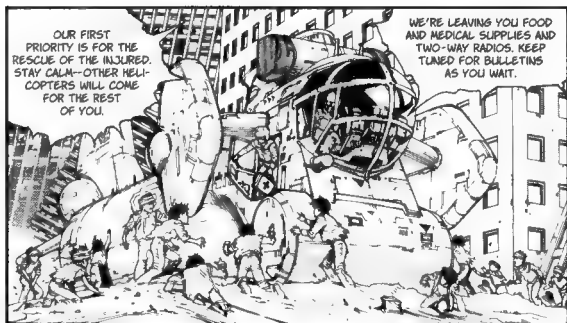
An aerial photograph of a city, likely Tokyo, with a large, solid blue rectangle superimposed over the center. The rectangle covers most of the middle section of the image. The city's buildings and streets are visible around the edges of the rectangle and in the top corners.

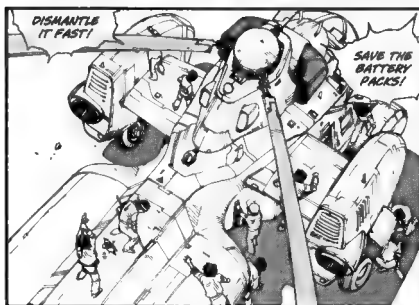
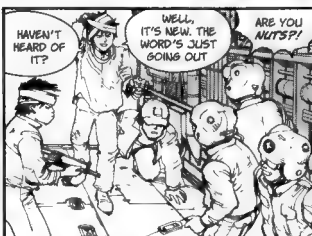
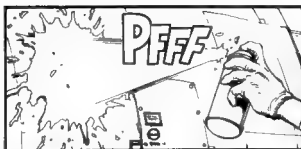
AKIRA

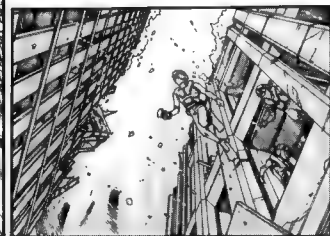
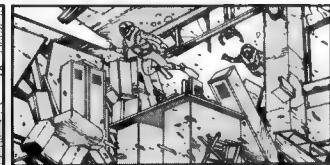
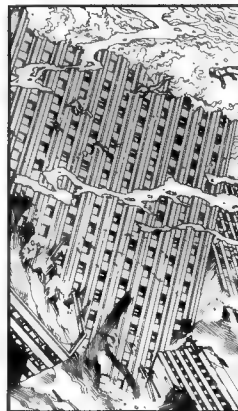
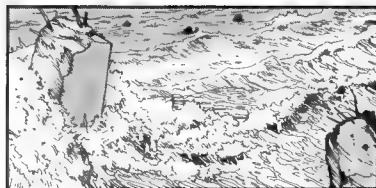
BY KATSUHIRO OTOMO

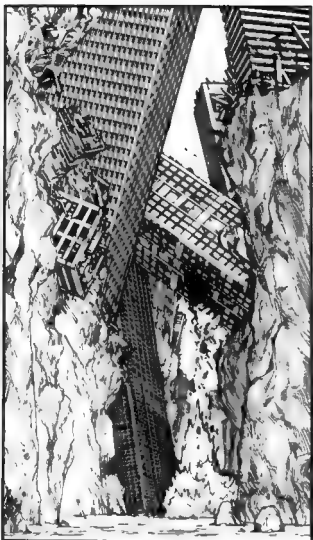
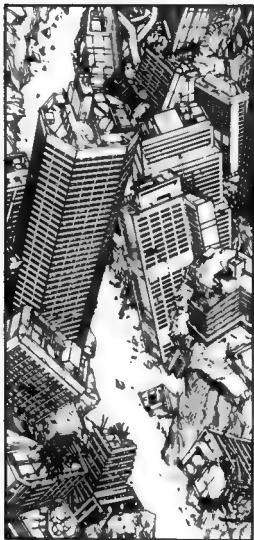












BE
CAREFUL!



WE'RE
ALMOST
THERE...





HERE'S
WHERE WE
DIVIDE INTO
PAIRS.

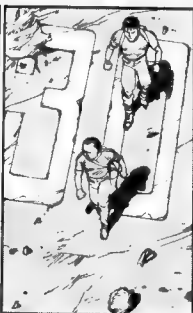


NO CONTACT
UNDER ANY CIRCUM-
STANCES BETWEEN
THE VARIOUS TEAMS.
IF ANY OF US
CROSS PATHS...

...WE ACT AS
STRANGERS. IF
YOUR BUDDY DIES,
CARRY ON THE
MISSION ALONE.
THE MISSION
IS ALL THAT
MATTERS!



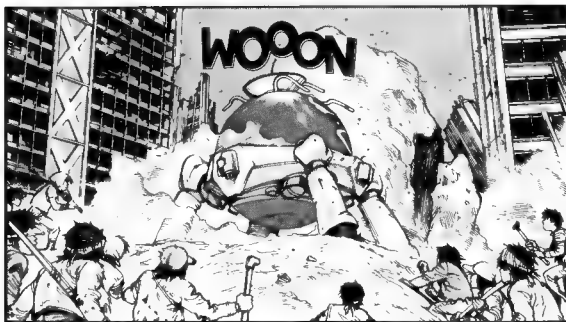
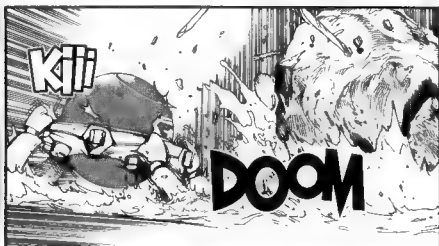
RELAY AS MUCH
INFORMATION AS
POSSIBLE ABOUT
AKIRA TO HEAD-
QUARTERS. NOW,
CLEAR OUT!

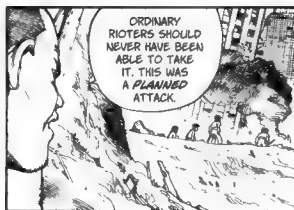
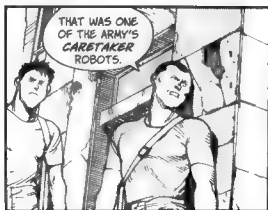


EK?

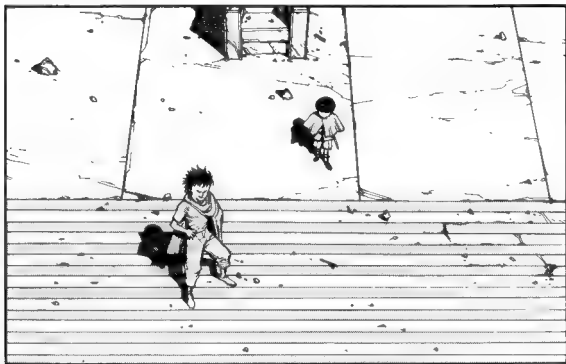


BOON



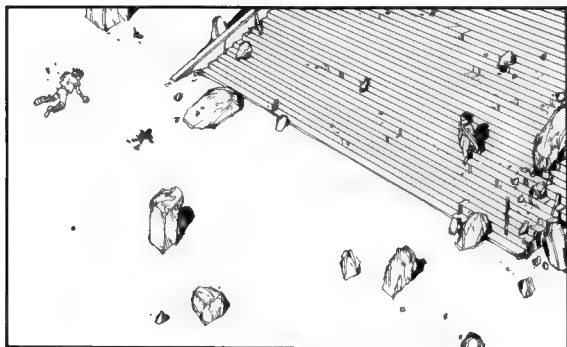


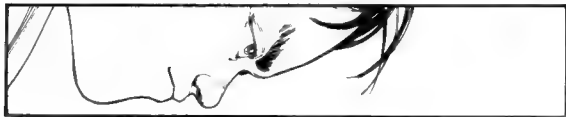
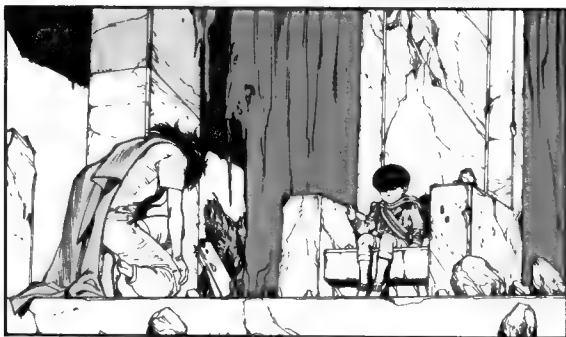
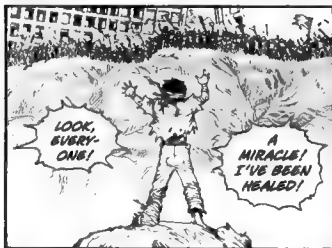
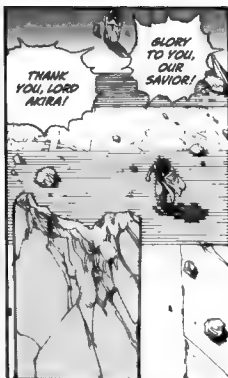


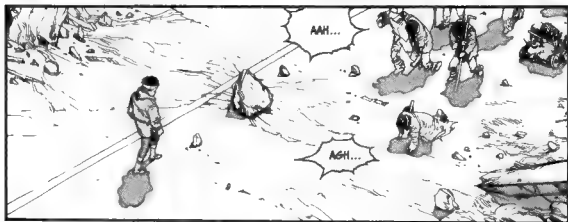
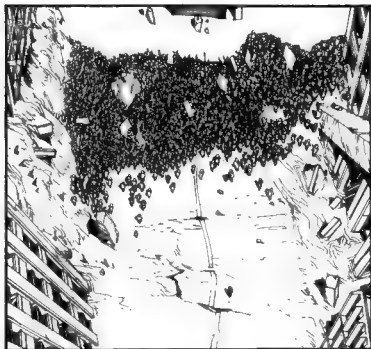


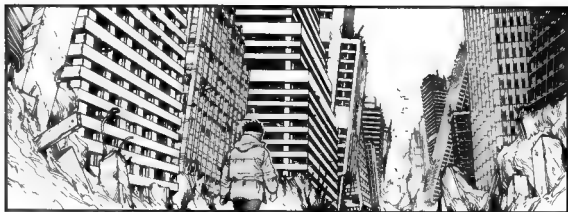






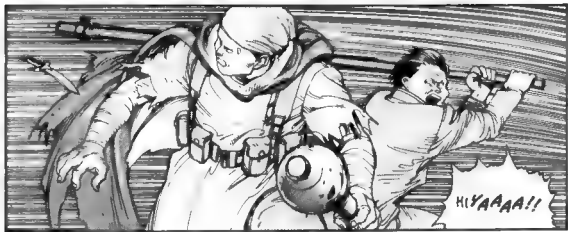


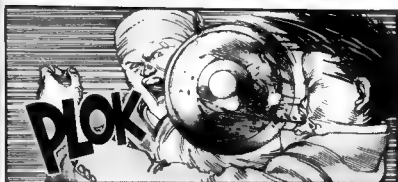




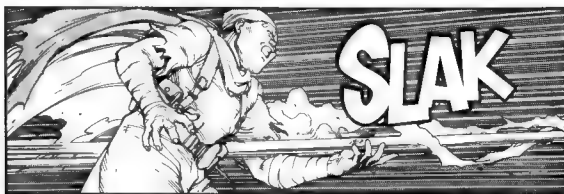


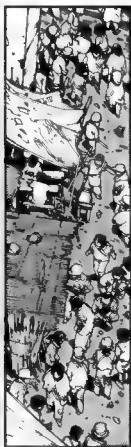
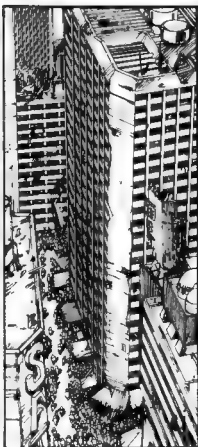


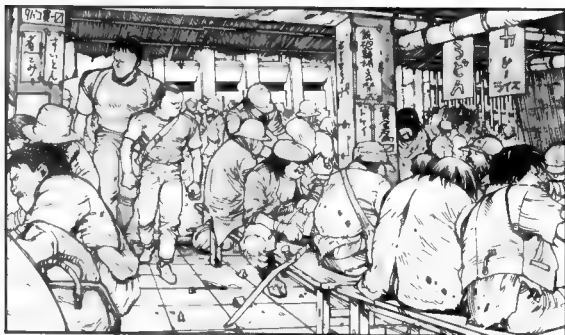






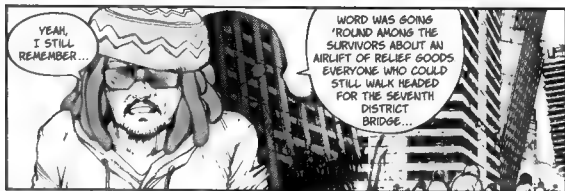
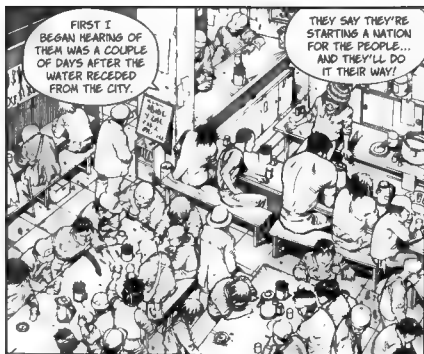


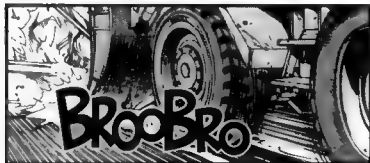
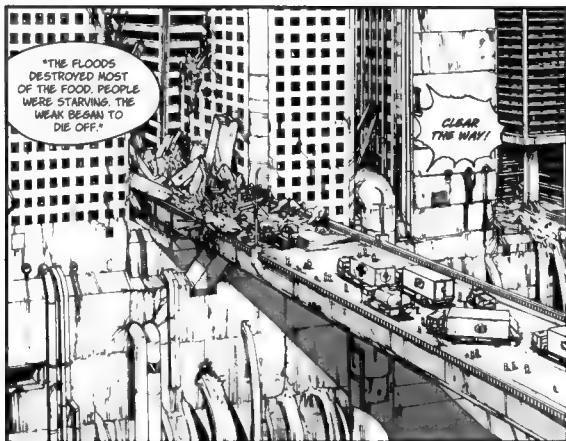


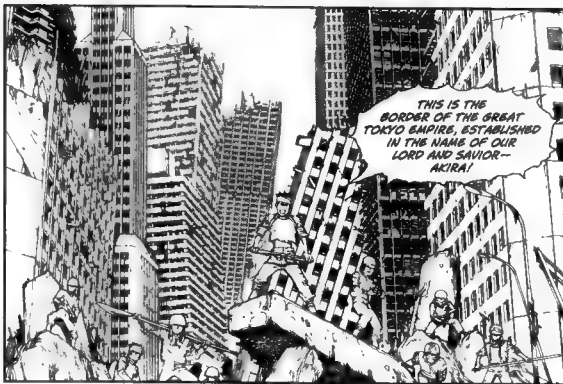
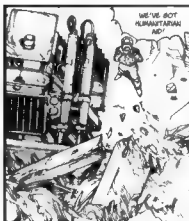




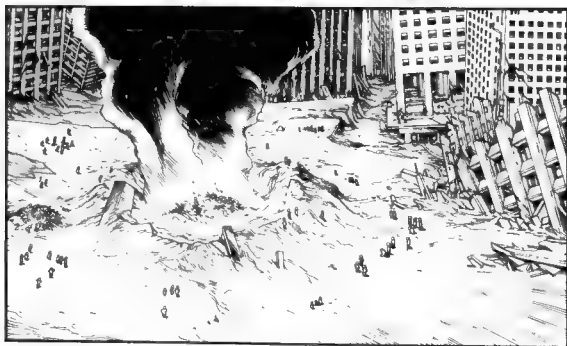
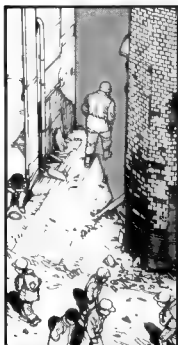




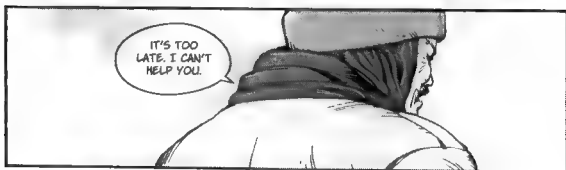


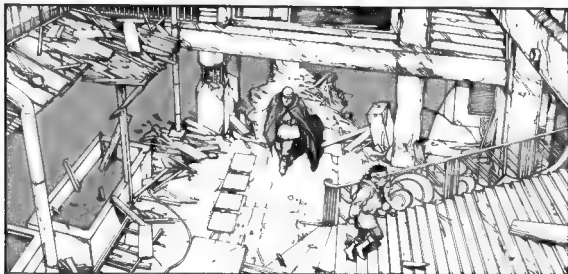
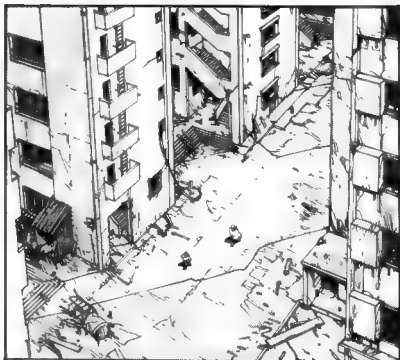


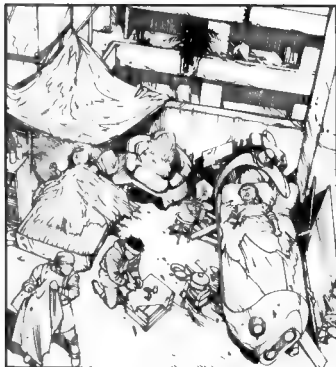
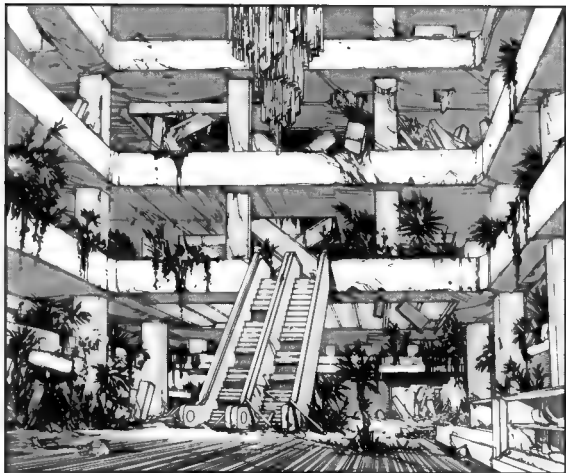






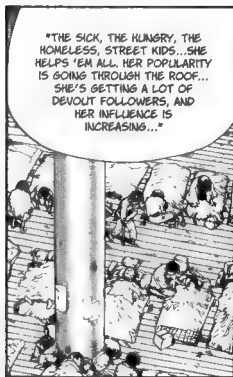


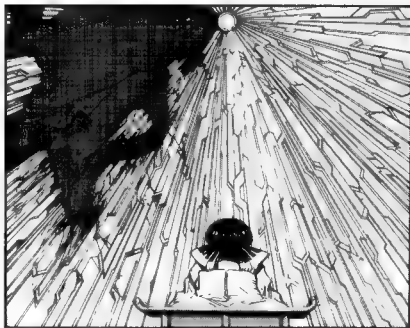




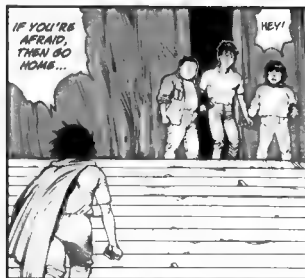
I HOPE THIS
DOES THE
TRICK.



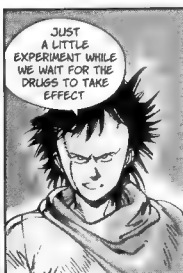
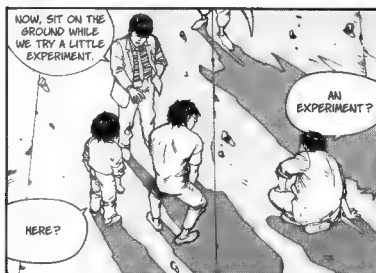


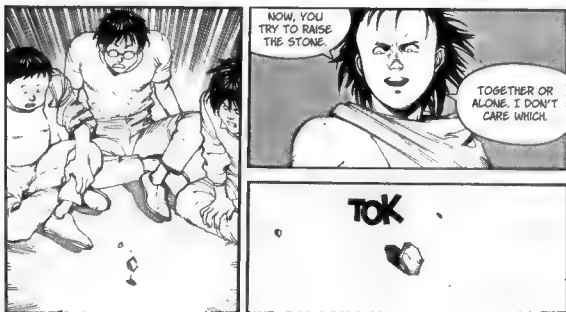
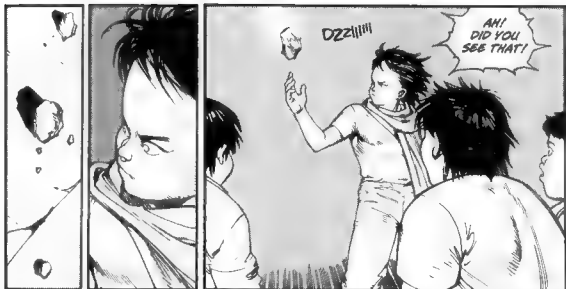


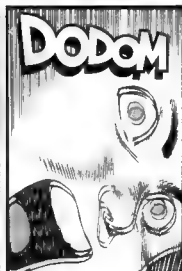
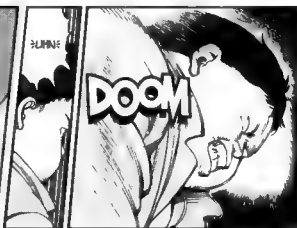
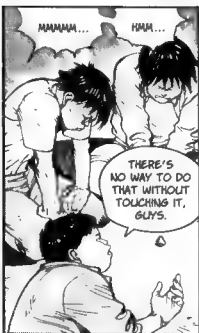








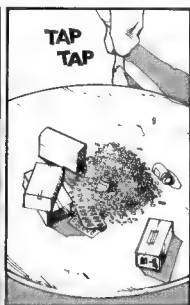
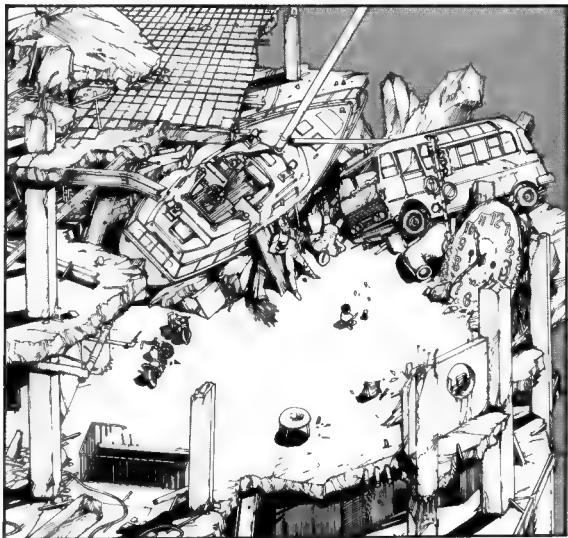




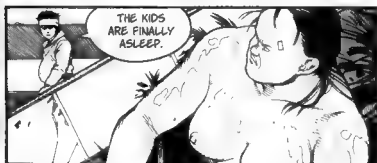
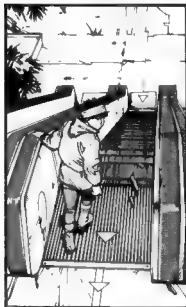














DID YOU FIND OUT ANYTHING MORE ABOUT THIS "NUMBER 19"?



NO. ALL THAT SHE SAID WAS THAT I SHOULD ASK NUMBER 19 FOR HELP.

KEI, THE WHOLE CITY IS IN RUINS. HOW ARE WE EVEN GOING TO FIND THIS NUMBER 19?

WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT IT IS... A THING, A PERSON, DEAD, ALIVE...



I KNOW WHERE TO GO...



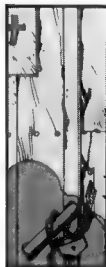
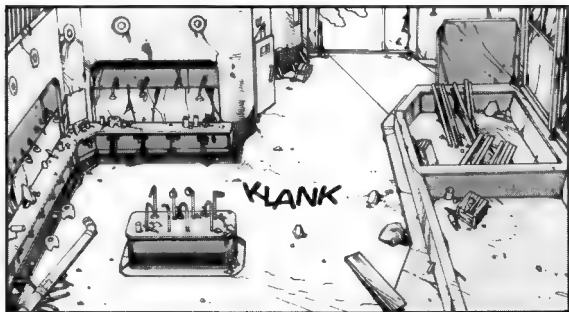
ARE YOU CRAZY? THAT'S IN LADY MIYAKO'S TERRITORY! ARE YOU SURE...?



YES, THERE'S NO MISTAKE. THAT'S WHERE WE'LL FIND NUMBER 19...



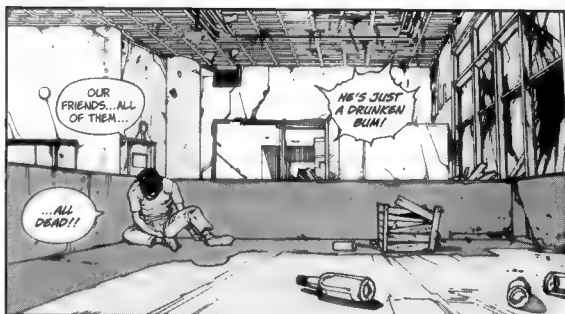
SO LET'S NOT WASTE ANY MORE TIME!



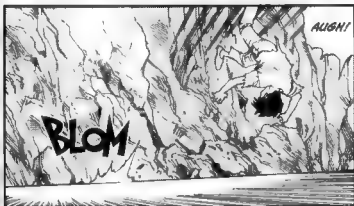
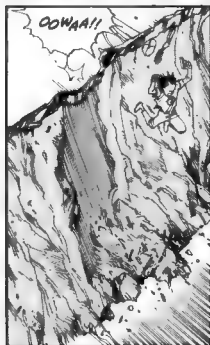


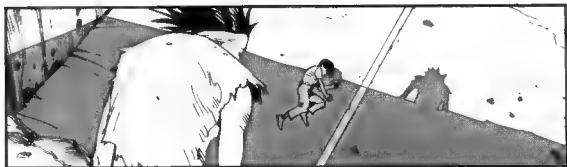




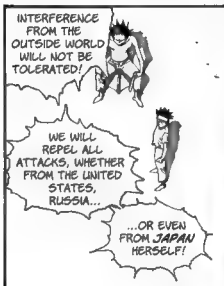


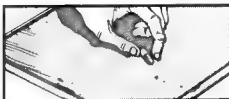


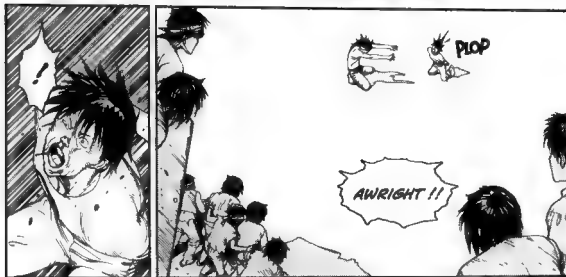
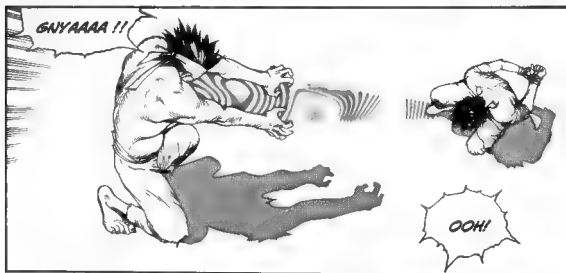


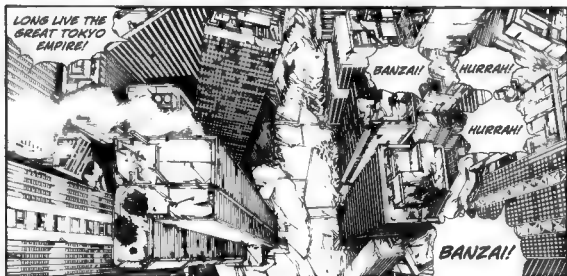


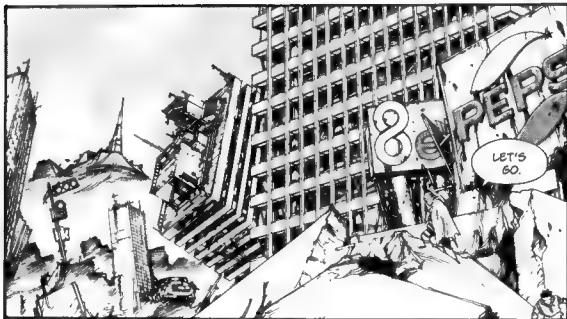
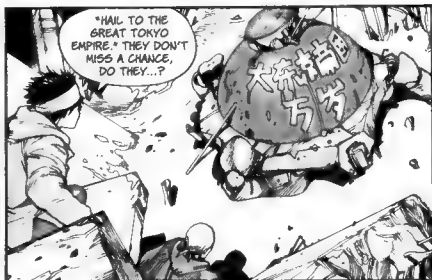
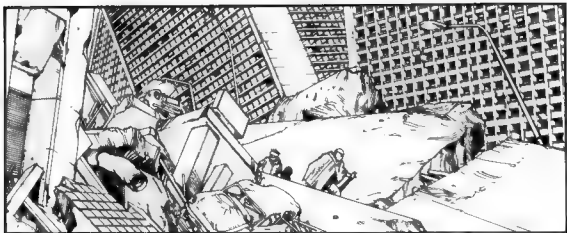




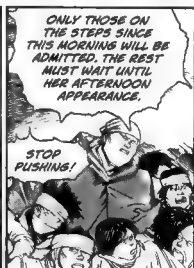
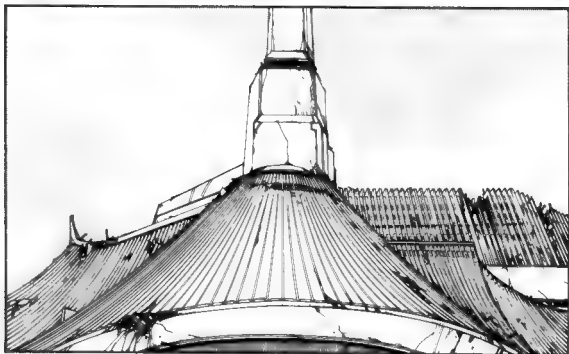


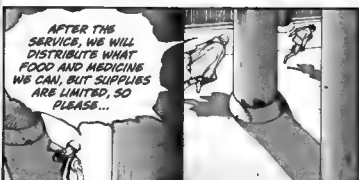














THAT GUY
THEY KILLED
WAS NO ROOKIE.
I NEVER FIGURED
SOME KID WOULD
FINISH HIM.

DID
YOU?



YOU KNOW
WHAT I'M
TALKING ABOUT,
RIGHT?

DID YOU
NOTICE WHAT
HAPPENED BEFORE
THAT GUY STARTED
TO SHOUT?

NO...
WHAT?



THAT BIG, UGLY
APE WAS TAKING
SOMETHING.

OH, YEAH!
I SAW THEM
BRING HIM A
CAPSULE ON
A TRAY...



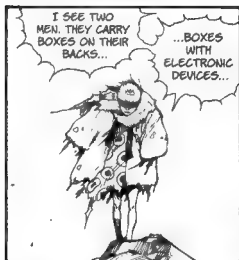
YOU THINK
IT WAS ALL
A TRICK?

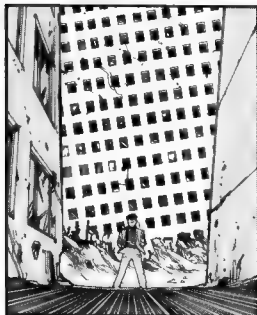
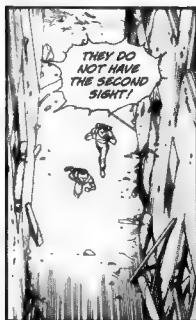
HARD TO SAY...
ONE THING'S FOR
CERTAIN--WE CAN'T
AFFORD TO UNDER-
ESTIMATE...

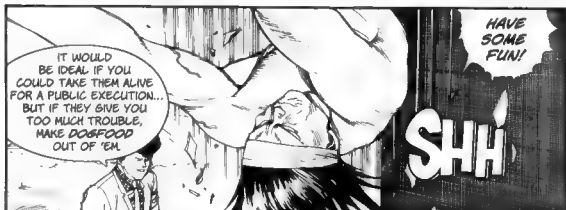


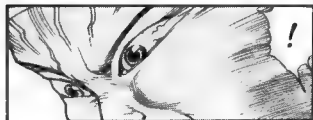
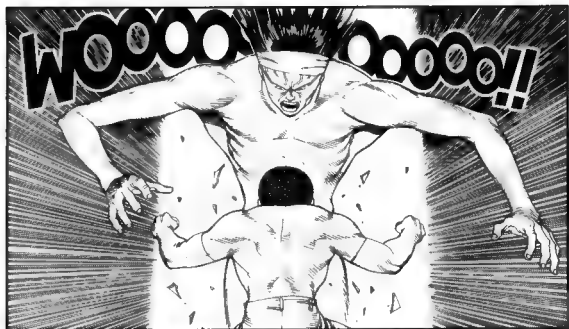
THERE'S
NOTHING NORMAL
ABOUT THIS
PLACE.

KEEP
THAT IN YOUR
HEAD.

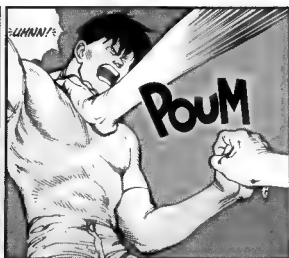






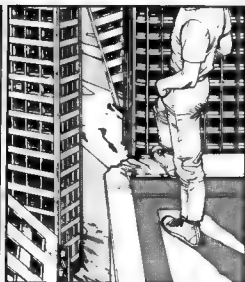
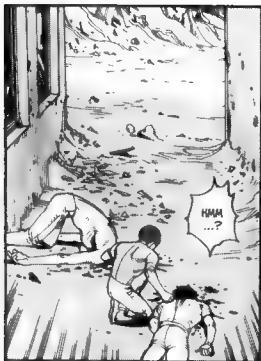


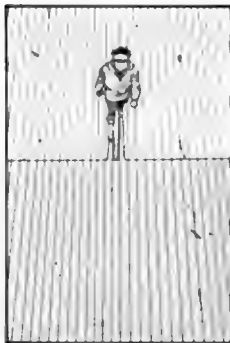


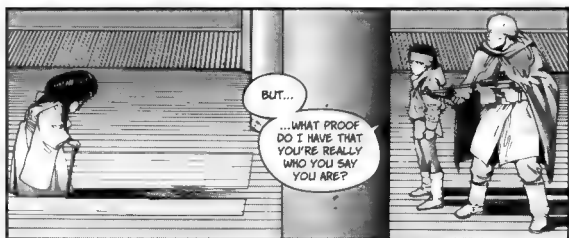


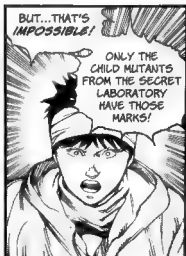


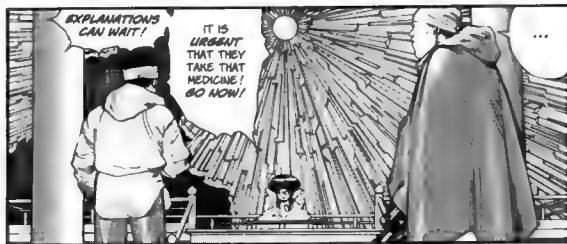
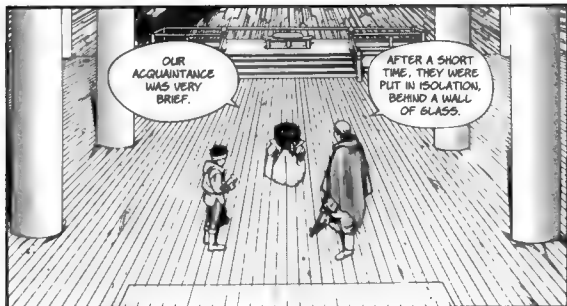


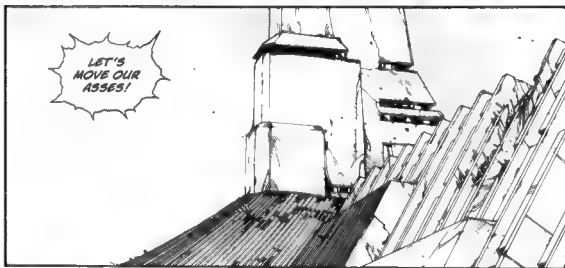


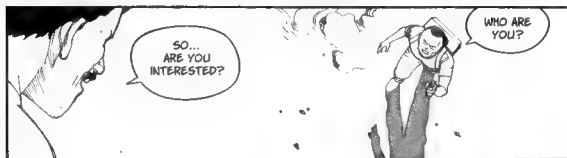
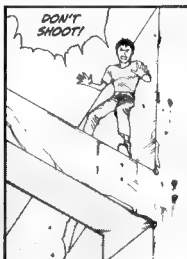






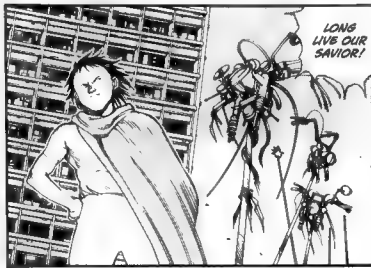
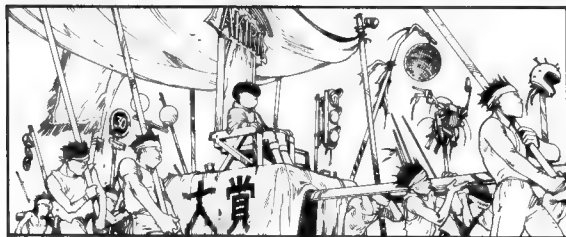


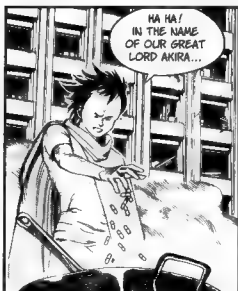


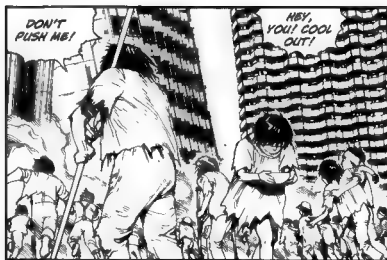


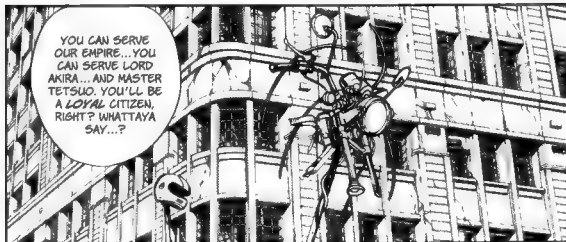
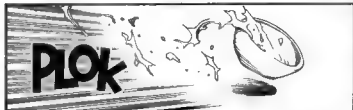


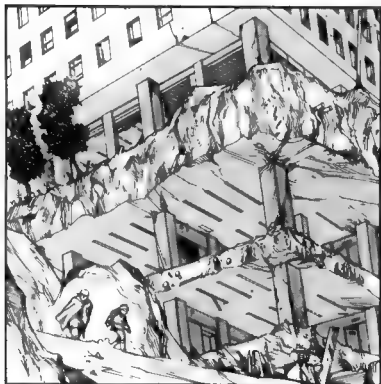


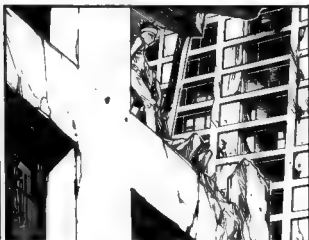
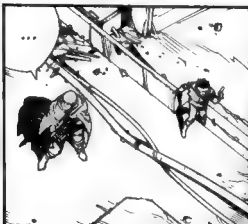


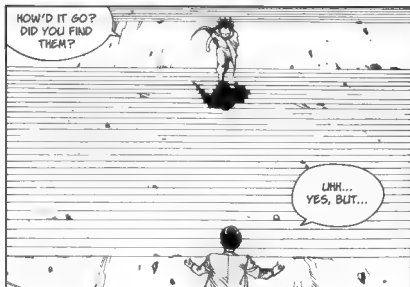


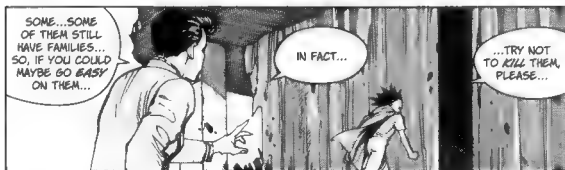




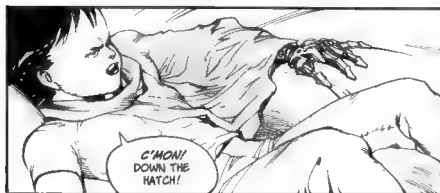


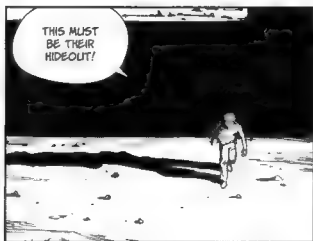
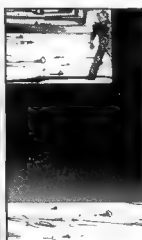
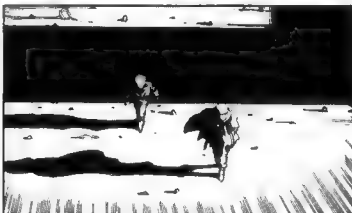


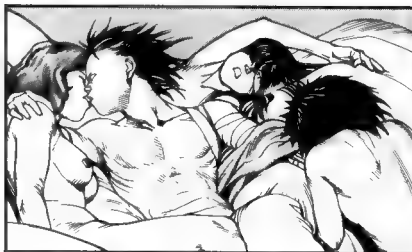
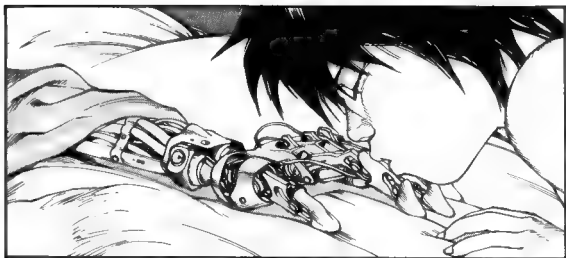


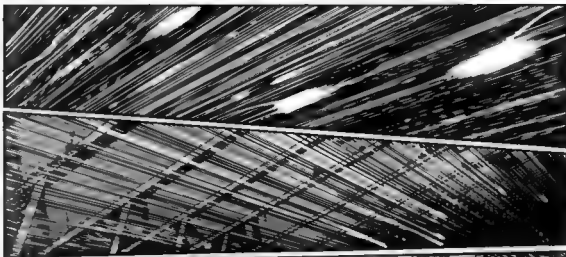
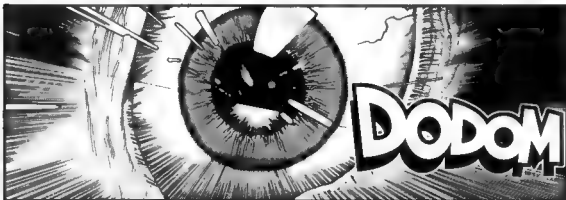


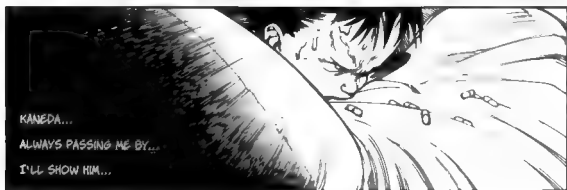
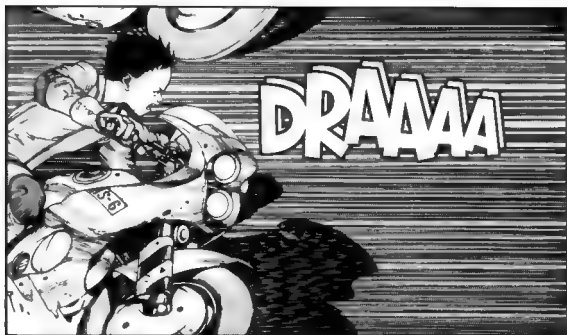


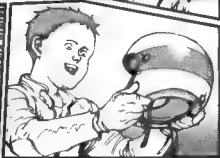
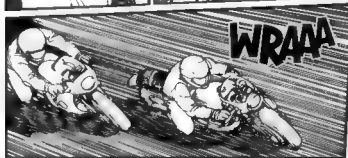




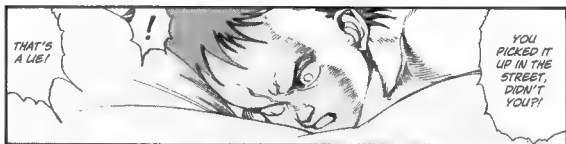


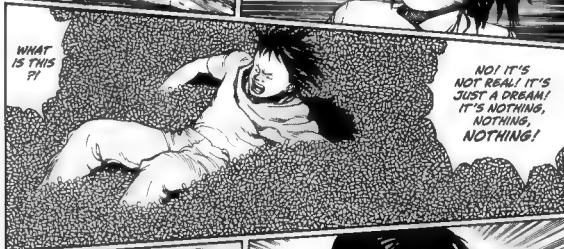
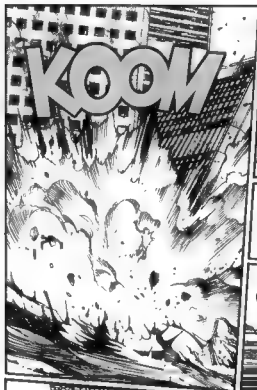














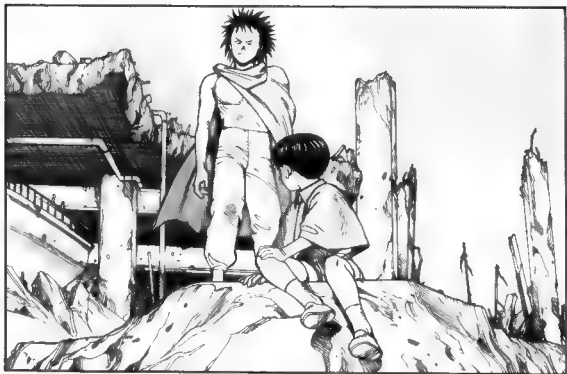


KAORI...
I'M KAORI.

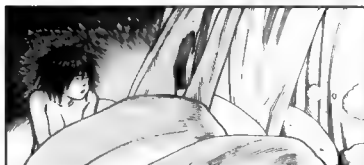


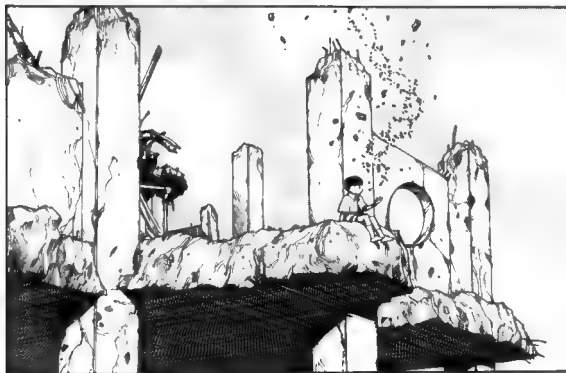
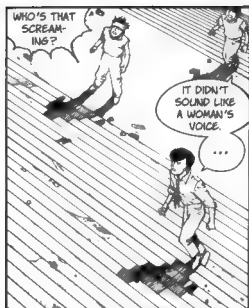
OKAY,
KAORI.

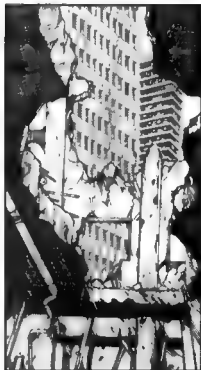






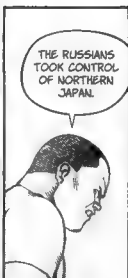








LAST
WEEK...



THE RUSSIANS
TOOK CONTROL
OF NORTHERN
JAPAN.



THERE WAS A
FACE-OFF BETWEEN
THE RUSSIAN AND JAP-
ANESE NAVAL FLEETS
IN THE STRAITS OF
TSUGARU.

A MONTH AGO,
A PROVISIONAL
GOVERNMENT WAS
APPOINTED, BUT IT'S
STRICTLY FOR SHOW...
IT HAS NO REAL
POWER.



WHAT
ABOUT...THE
AMERICANS?



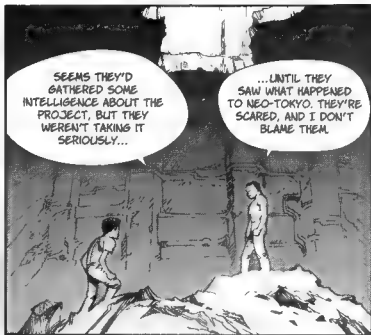
THEIR FLEET'S
IN THE
AREA...

...BUT THEY'RE
KEEPING THEIR
DISTANCE.

BUT THEY HAVE
TO INTERVENE! WHAT
ABOUT OUR TREATY?!

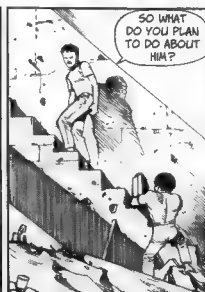


THEY
ARE AFRAID
OF AKIRA.

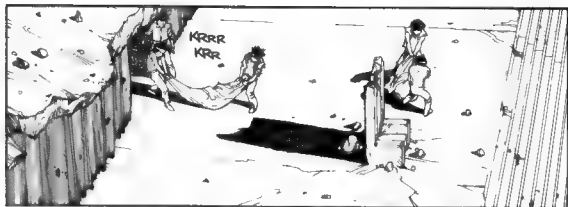


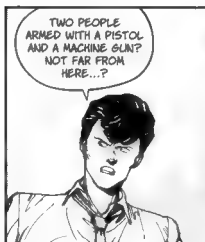
SEEMS THEY'D
GATHERED SOME
INTELLIGENCE ABOUT THE
PROJECT, BUT THEY
WEREN'T TAKING IT
SERIOUSLY...

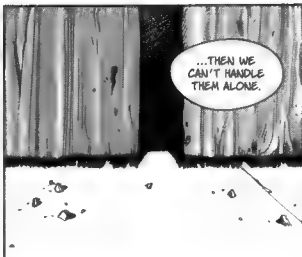
...UNTIL THEY
SAW WHAT HAPPENED
TO NEO-TOKYO. THEY'RE
SCARED, AND I DON'T
BLAME THEM.

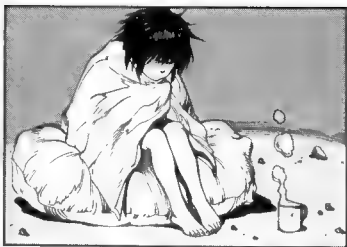


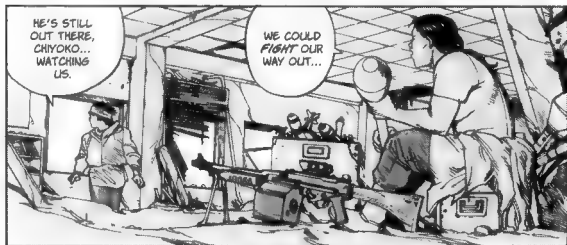
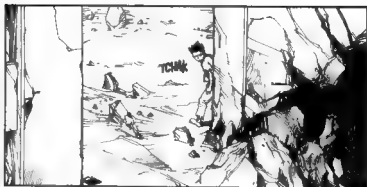
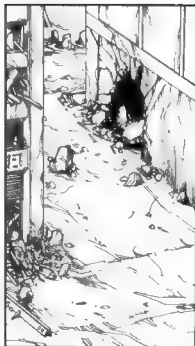








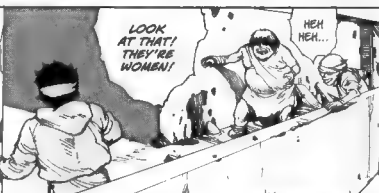






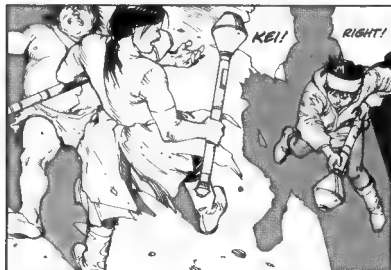
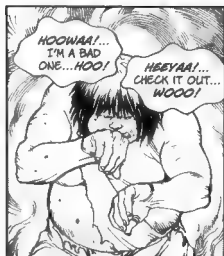


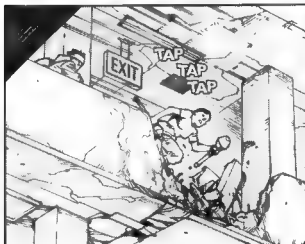
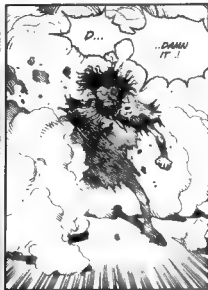
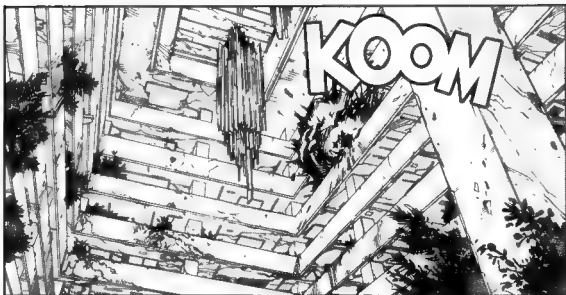
YOUR WORRIES ARE OVER! NO MORE CHILDREN TO FEED, NO MORE TAXES TO PAY, NO MORE NOTHING! HEE HEE!

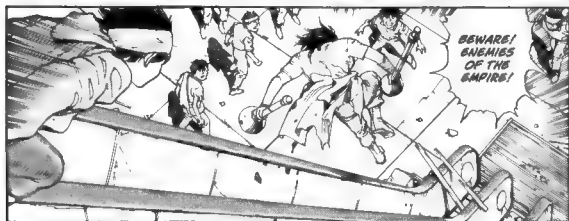
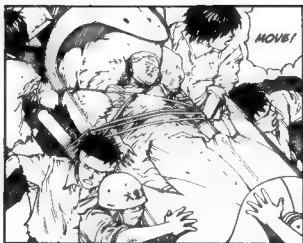


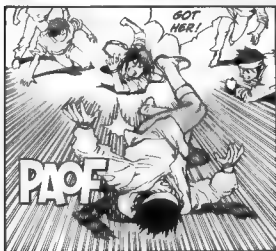
ALL RIGHT!



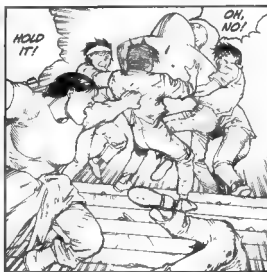


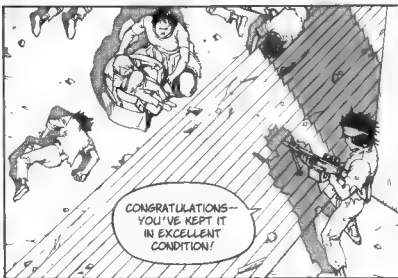


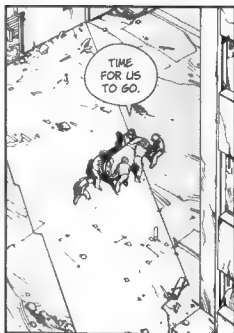






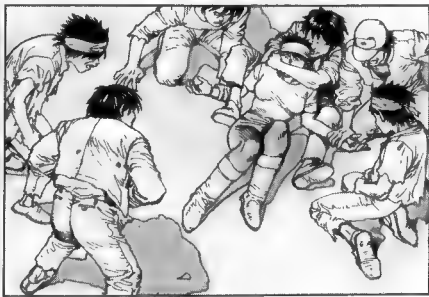
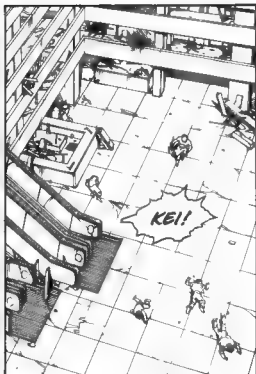


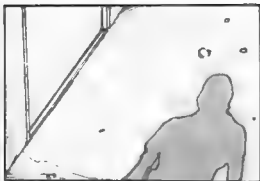
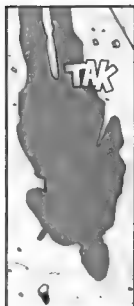








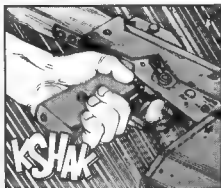


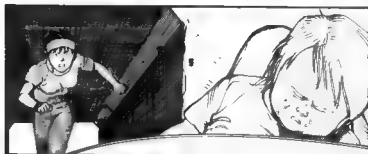




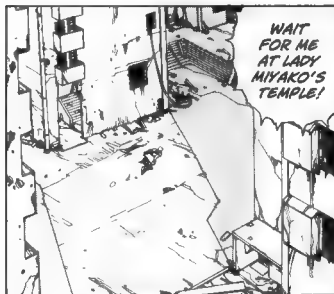
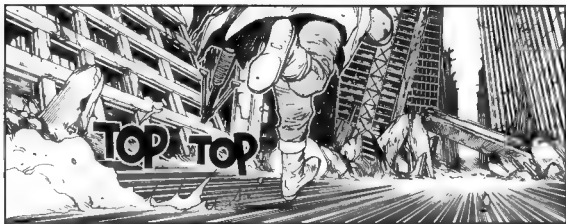


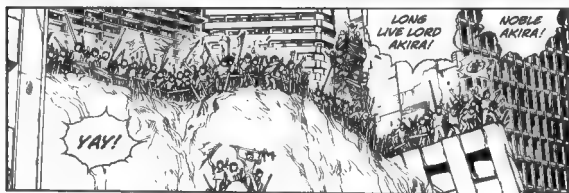
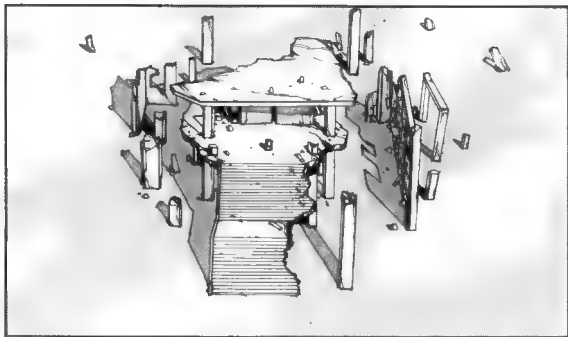




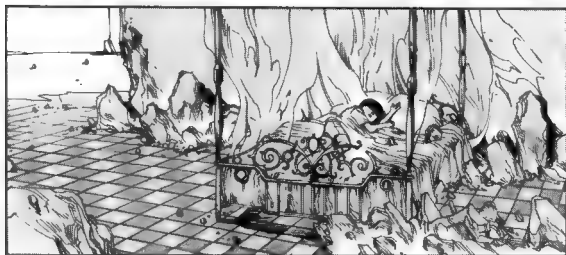


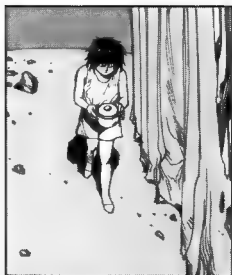












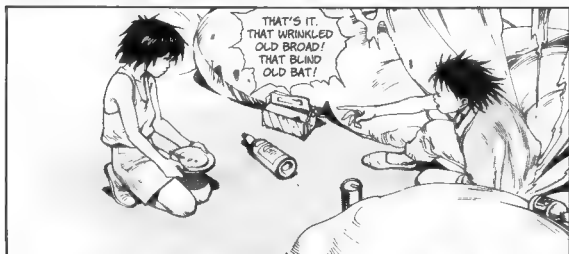


THEN...

YOU DON'T
REMEMBER?



I BROUGHT
YOU SOME
FOOD...



THAT'S IT.
THAT WRINKLED
OLD BROAD!
THAT BLIND
OLD BAT!



FOR
SOMEONE
WHO CAN'T
SEE... SHE
KNOWS A
HELL OF A
LOT...

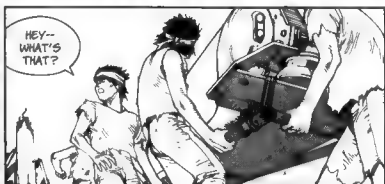
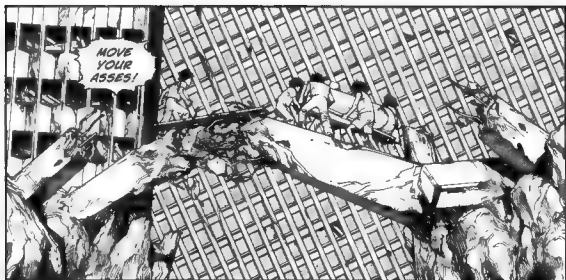


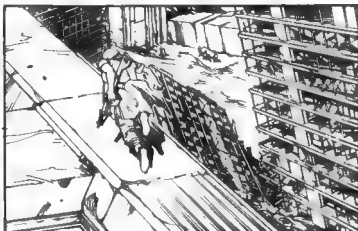
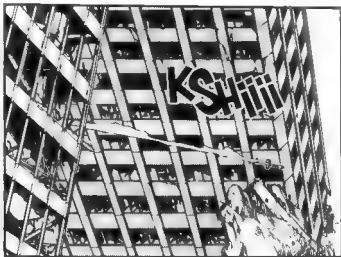
I'M SURE...YEAH,
SHE CAN EXPLAIN
IT TO ME!

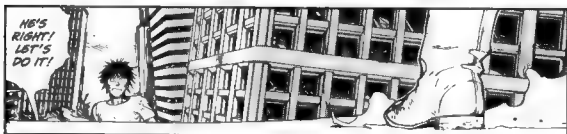
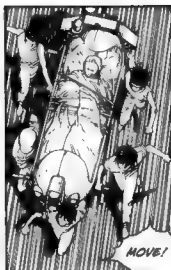


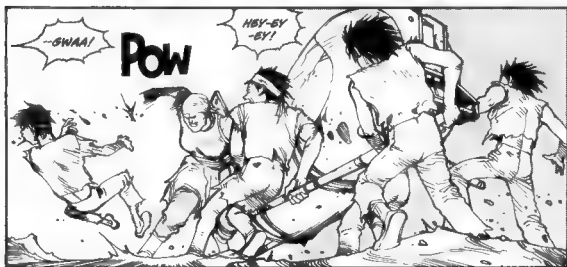
HELP
ME UP!

I HAVE TO
GO SEE
HER

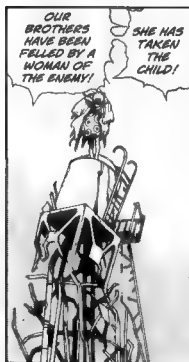


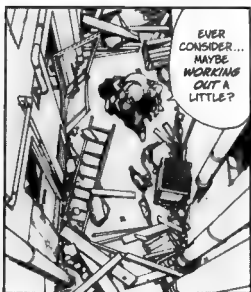
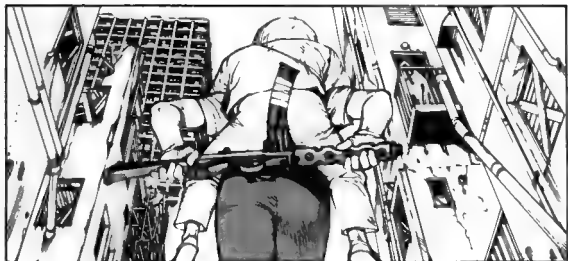


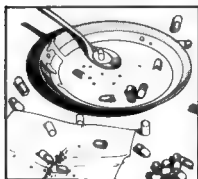


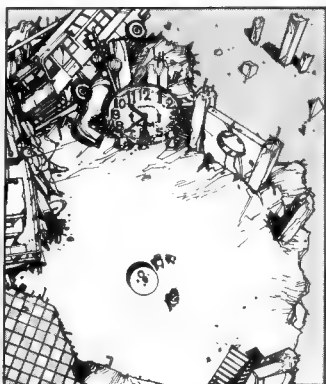
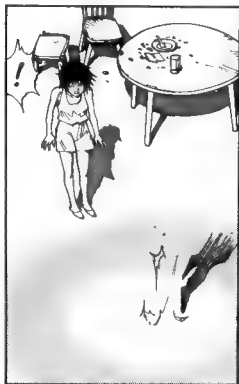


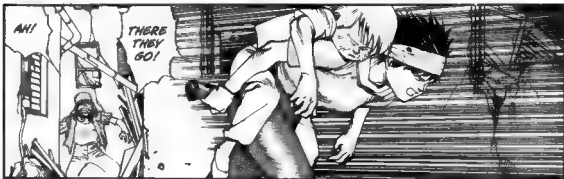


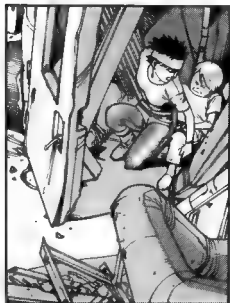






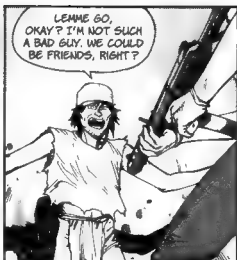


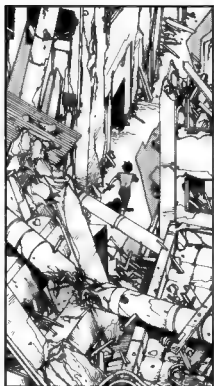












THIN SKULL...

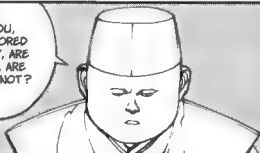
HE'S READY FOR MORE, THE BASTARD!







YOU,
HONORED
LADY, ARE
KIBI, ARE
YOU NOT?



HOW DO YOU
KNOW MY
NAME?



THERE
SHE IS!



SHIT!
THEY'RE
HERE!

!GASP!

STOP!

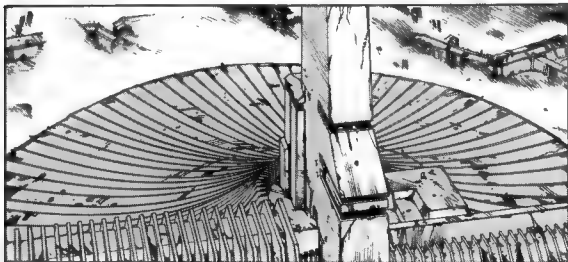


DON'T
SHOOT
THEM!

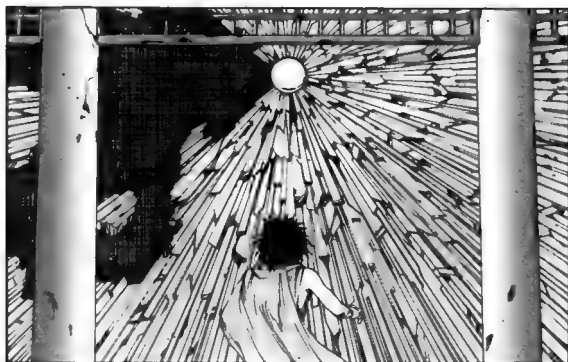


WHY
NOT?
!!



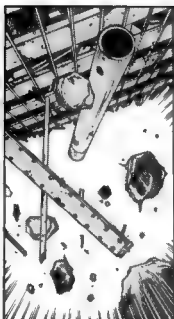






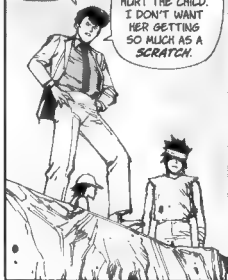






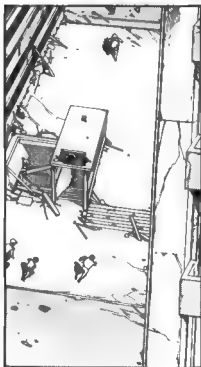
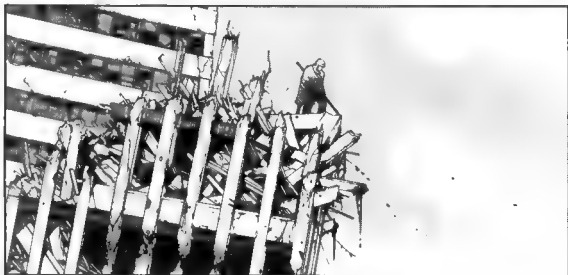
THAT'S ENOUGH.
GO DOWN AND
FINISH HER.

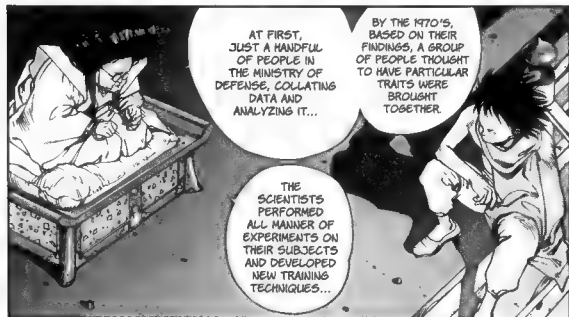
BUT
WHATEVER
YOU DO, DON'T
HURT THE CHILD.
I DON'T WANT
HER GETTING
SO MUCH AS A
SCRATCH.

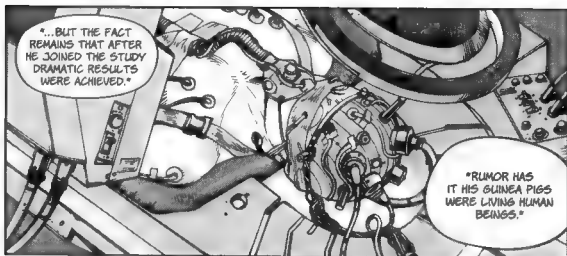


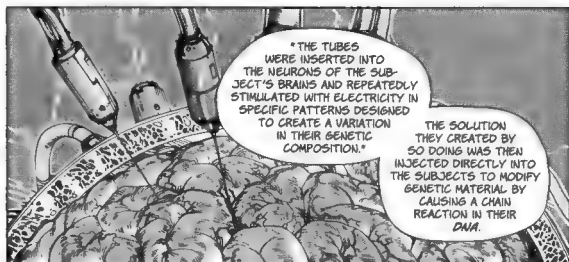
THE COW'S
AMMO CAN'T LAST
FOREVER...





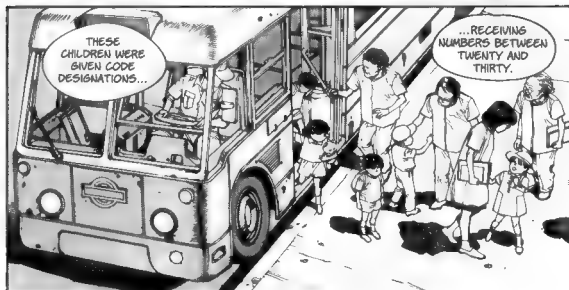






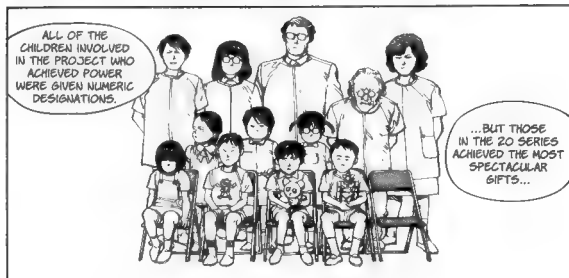
"THE TUBES WERE INSERTED INTO THE NEURONS OF THE SUBJECT'S BRAINS AND REPEATEDLY STIMULATED WITH ELECTRICITY IN SPECIFIC PATTERNS DESIGNED TO CREATE A VARIATION IN THEIR GENETIC COMPOSITION."

THE SOLUTION THEY CREATED BY SO DOING WAS THEN INJECTED DIRECTLY INTO THE SUBJECTS TO MODIFY GENETIC MATERIAL BY CAUSING A CHAIN REACTION IN THEIR DNA.



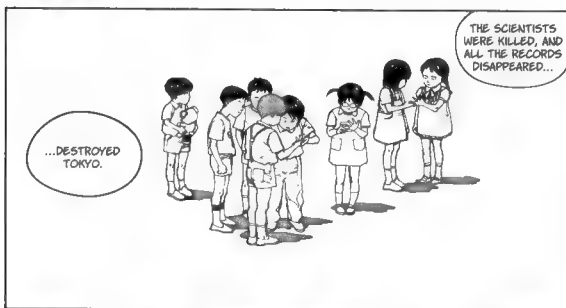
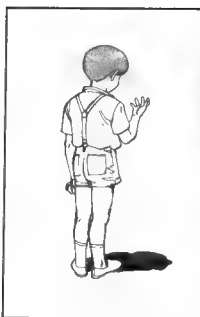
THESE CHILDREN WERE GIVEN CODE DESIGNATIONS...

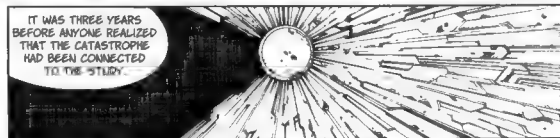
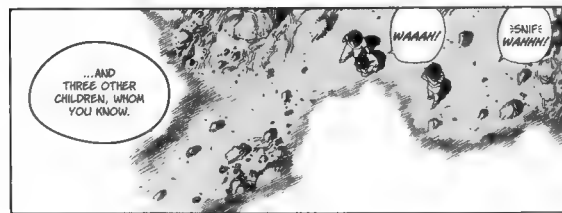
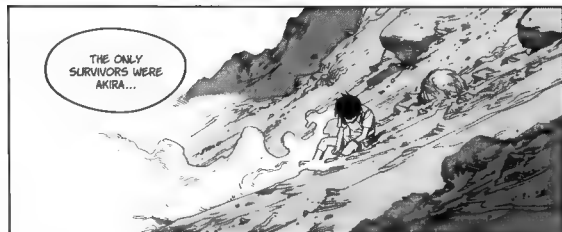
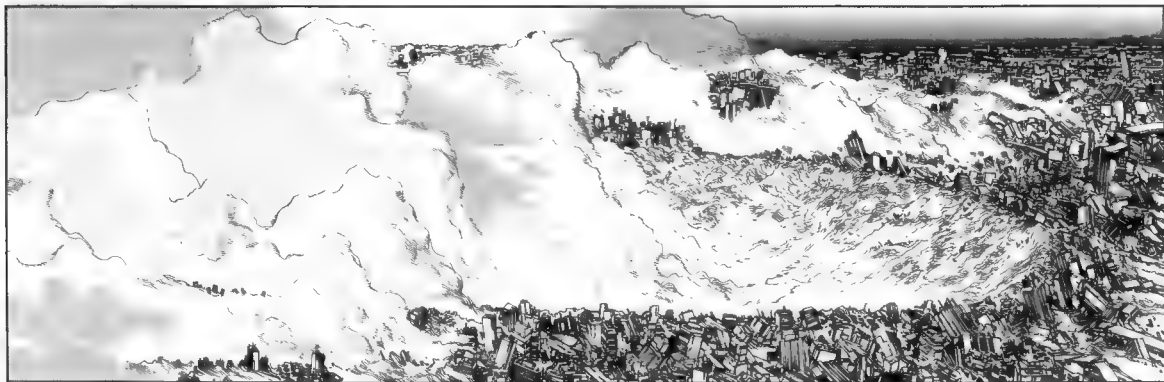
...RECEIVING NUMBERS BETWEEN TWENTY AND THIRTY.

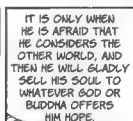
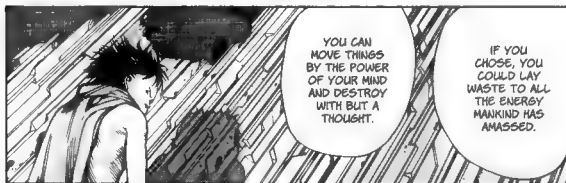
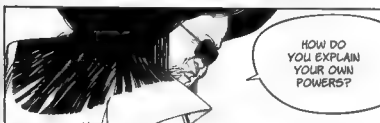


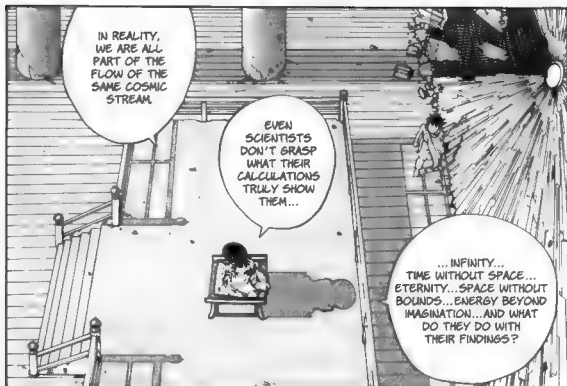
ALL OF THE CHILDREN INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT WHO ACHIEVED POWER WERE GIVEN NUMERIC DESIGNATIONS.

...BUT THOSE IN THE 20 SERIES ACHIEVED THE MOST SPECTACULAR GIFTS...









IN REALITY,
WE ARE ALL
PART OF THE
FLOW OF THE
SAME COSMIC
STREAM

EVEN
SCIENTISTS
DON'T GRASP
WHAT THEIR
CALCULATIONS
TRULY SHOW
THEM...

... INFINITY...
TIME WITHOUT SPACE...
ETERNITY...SPACE WITHOUT
BOUNDS...ENERGY BEYOND
IMAGINATION...AND WHAT
DO THEY DO WITH
THEIR FINDINGS?



ANNOUNCE
THEM AT SOCIETY
DINNERS FOR
PLAQUES AND
THE RECORDING
OF THEIR NAMES
IN THE ANNALS
OF HISTORY. NO
MORE THAN
THAT!

BUT
EVEN
SO...

THE STREAM
FLOWS ON
BEYOND OUR
AWARENESS.



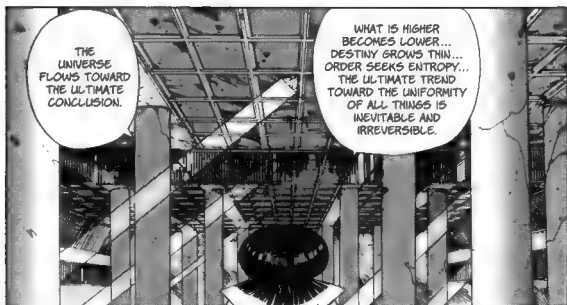
WHEN A MAN TRIES TO
SEE INTO THE DISTANCE,
WHAT DOES HE DO?



HE NARROWS
HIS EYES.

EVEN WITH
YOUR EYES
OPENED AS
WIDE AS
THEY WILL
GO...

...YOU CANNOT
PERCEIVE SOME-
THING SO LARGE
THAT IT IS BEYOND
THE RANGE OF
YOUR VISION.



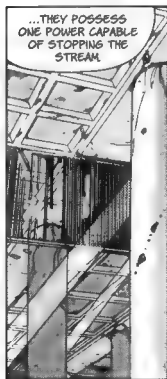
THE
UNIVERSE
FLOWS TOWARD
THE ULTIMATE
CONCLUSION.

WHAT IS HIGHER
BECOMES LOWER...
DESTINY GROWS THIN...
ORDER SEEKS ENTROPY...
THE ULTIMATE TREND
TOWARD THE UNIFORMITY
OF ALL THINGS IS
INEVITABLE AND
IRREVERSIBLE.



MEN GATHER
TOGETHER AS
THOUGH THEY WOULD
REVERSE THE COSMIC
STREAM, BUT IN TRUTH
THEY ARE ONLY
DRIFTWOOD.

YET, EVEN
AS THE STREAM
SWEEPS THEM
ALONG...



...THEY POSSESS
ONE POWER CAPABLE
OF STOPPING THE
STREAM.



WHEN THIS POWER IS
USED, THE STREAM WILL
STOP FOR AN INSTANT...AND
THEN RESUME ITS COURSE
WITH REDOUBLED
INTENSITY.



WHEN IT IS
BEFORE THEM, PEOPLE
RECOGNIZE THE STREAM
FOR WHAT IT IS AND
FEAR ITS POWER...

...AS YOU'VE
ALREADY
SEEN.



LOOK
BEYOND
FORM AND
CONSIDER
SUBSTANCE

AKIRA IS
NOT IN THE
STREAM



THAT
STUFF ABOUT
STREAMS AND
VISION IS JUST
METAPHYSICAL
BULLSHIT!

I WANT
TO KNOW
SOMETHING
CONCRETE!
WHAT THE
HELL IS
AKIRA?!

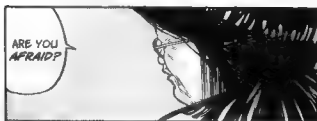
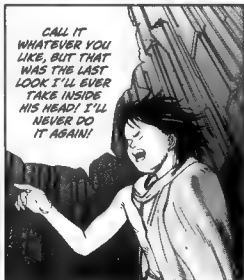


PEOPLE IN
THE STREAM
WILL NEVER
UNDERSTAND.



WELL, YOU
TALK LIKE
YOU'VE GOT
A HANDLE
ON IT!

TELL
ME WHAT
ALL THIS
MEANS!







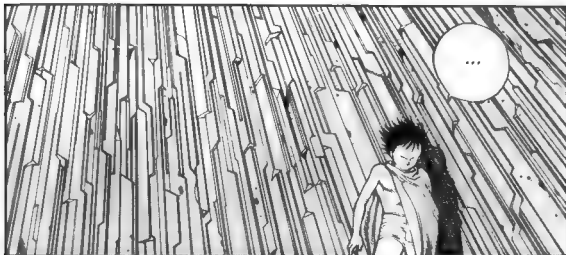
TO EXERT YOUR FULL
POWER, YOU MUST CLEANSE
YOUR BODY OF INFLUENCES.
WHEN YOU CAN OVERCOME YOUR
OWN WEAKNESS, THE POWER
WILL FLOW FROM YOU
FREELY.



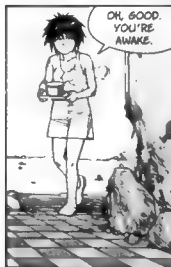
SHUT UP,
YOU OLD BAG!
I DIDN'T COME
HERE TO LISTEN
TO A LECTURE!



IF YOU
WOULD BECOME
CLOSE TO AKIRA,
YOU MUST
LEARN SELF-
CONTROL.

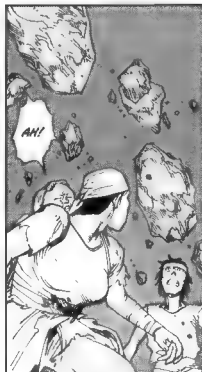


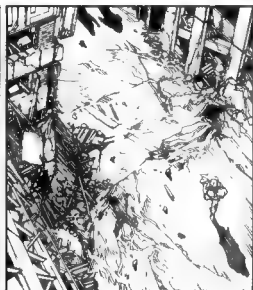
...

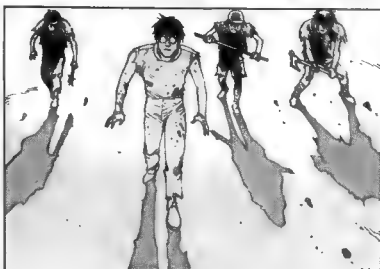
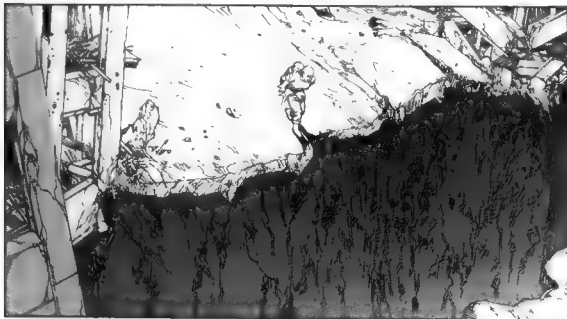


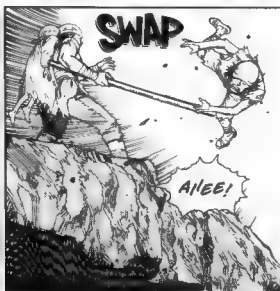


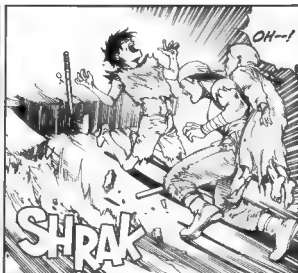
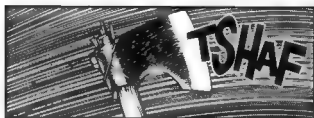








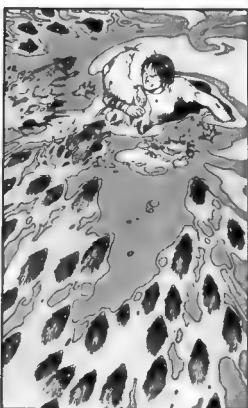










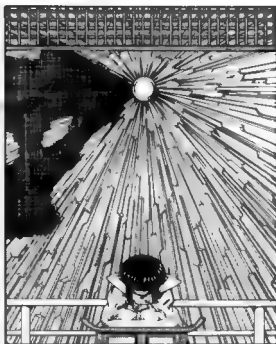
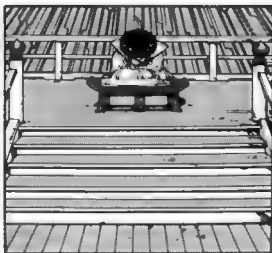


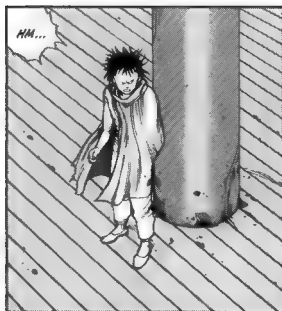


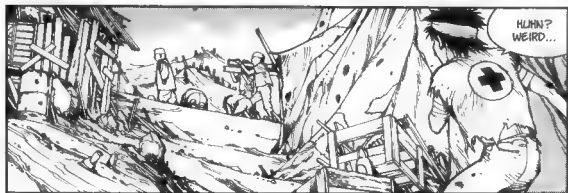
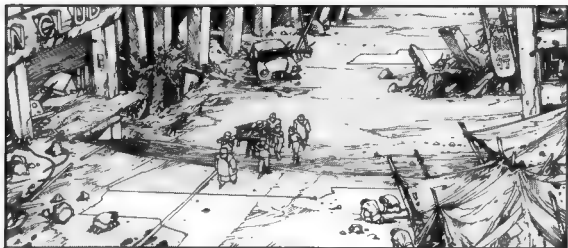


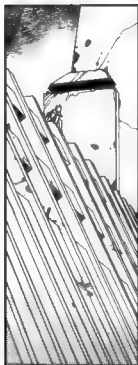


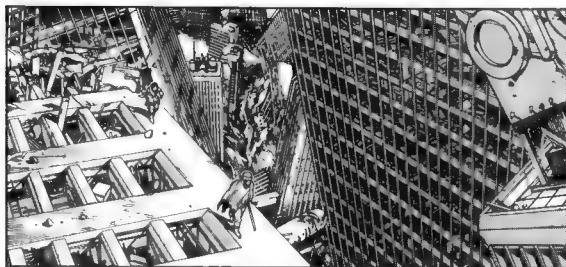


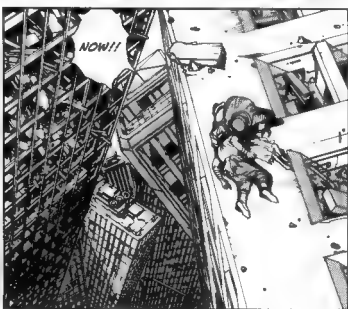


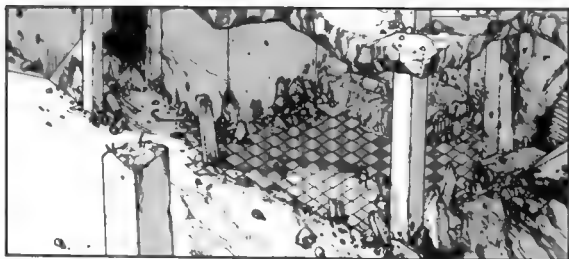


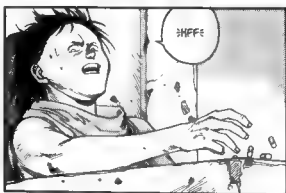
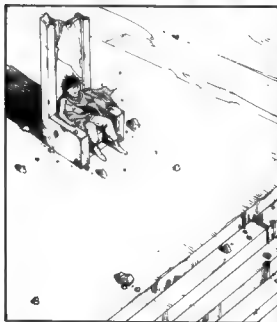


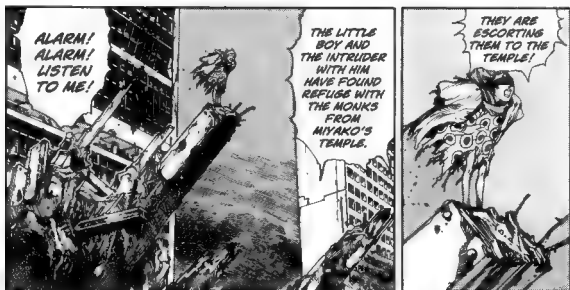


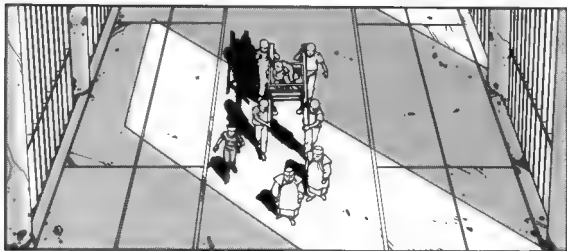


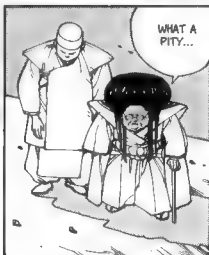
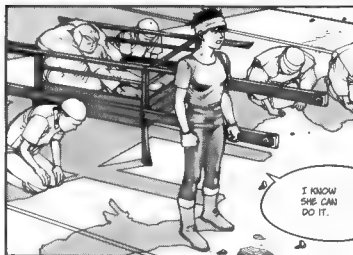


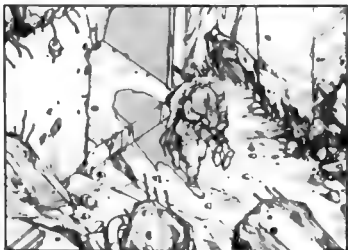
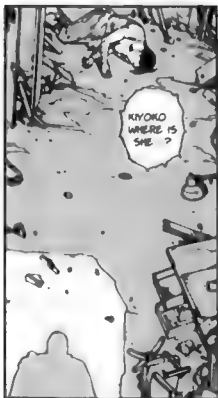




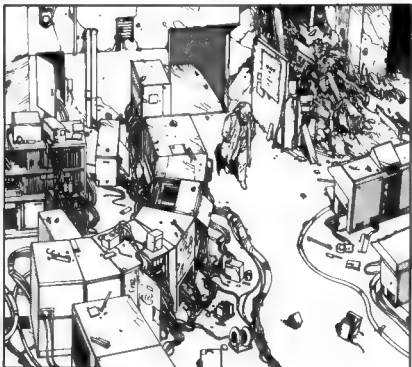
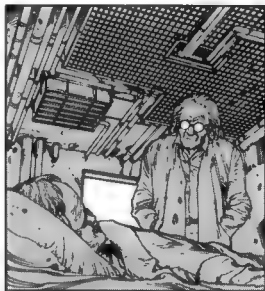


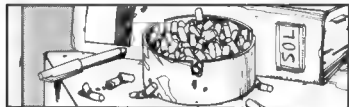
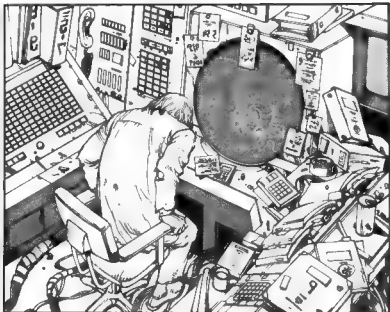




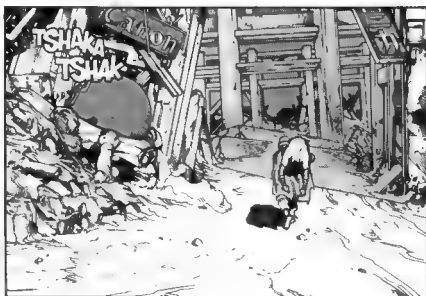
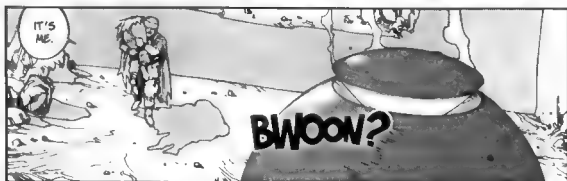
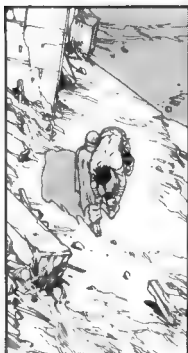


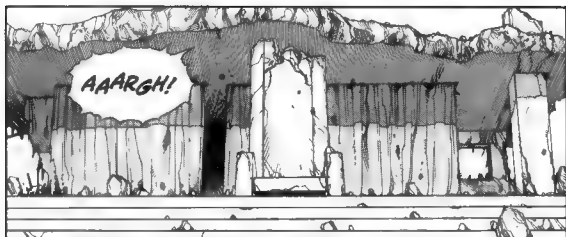


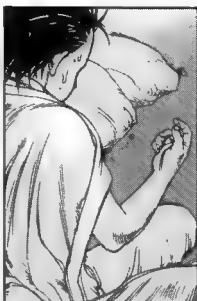
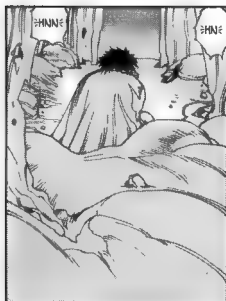


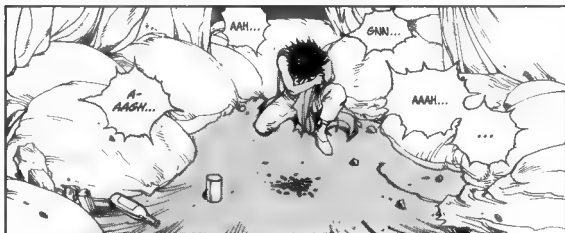














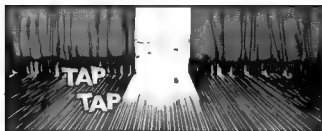


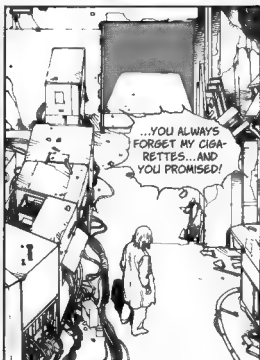
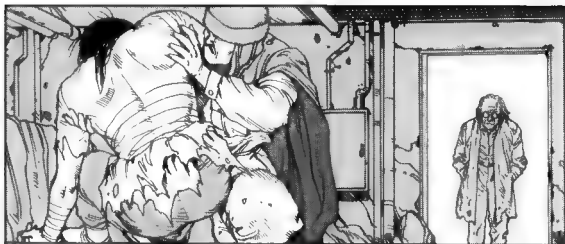
...IS IN THE HANDS OF MIYAKO'S MONKS.

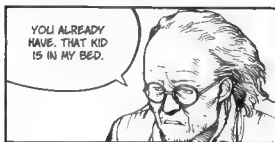
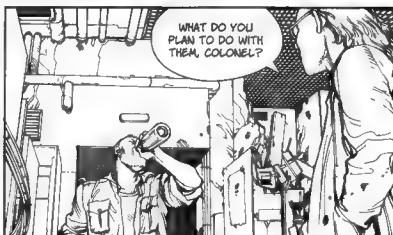
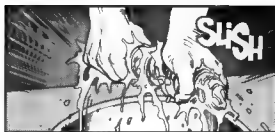


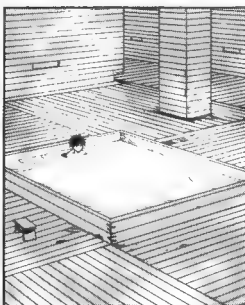
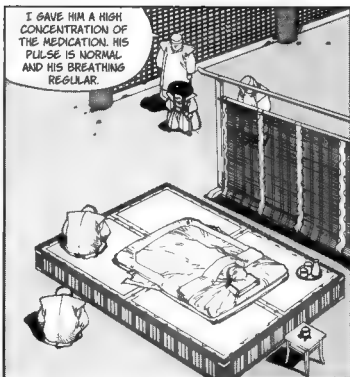
Y- YESSIR!

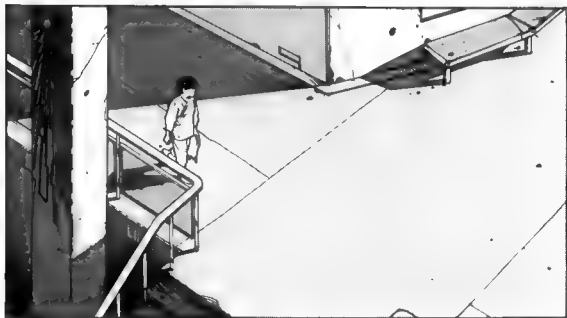
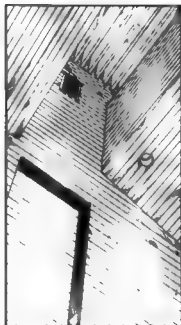
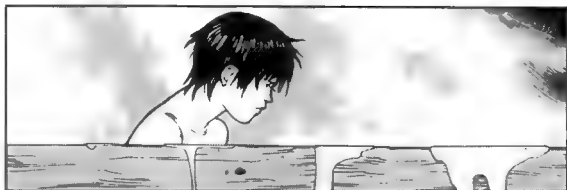


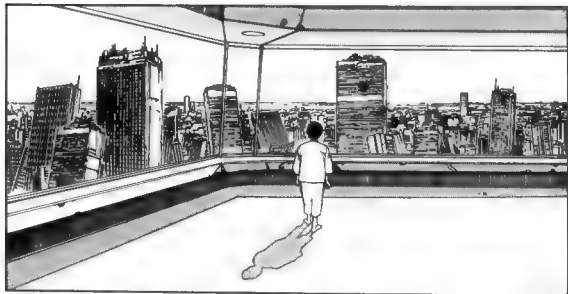
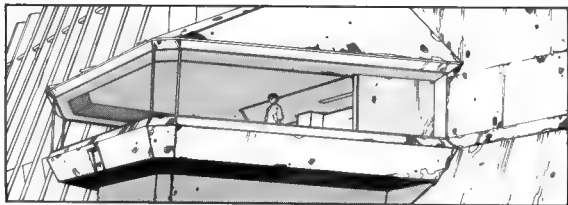




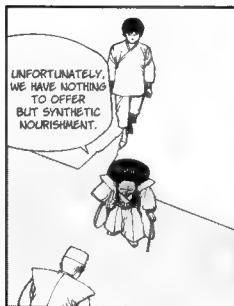










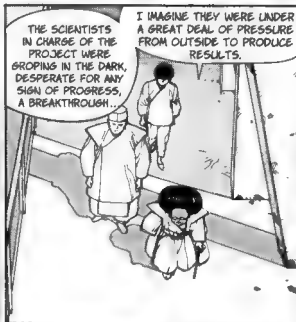




I WAS JUST
TEN YEARS OLD
AT THE TIME.



THERE WAS A
GROUP OF US,
ALL ABOUT
THE SAME
AGE.

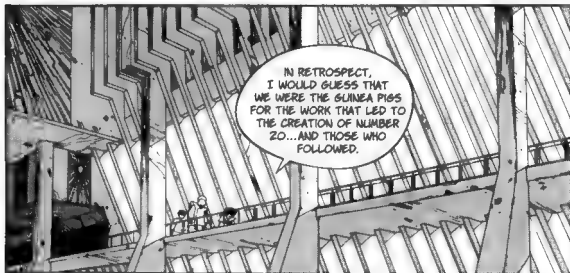


THE SCIENTISTS
IN CHARGE OF THE
PROJECT WERE
GROPING IN THE DARK,
DESPERATE FOR ANY
SIGN OF PROGRESS,
A BREAKTHROUGH...

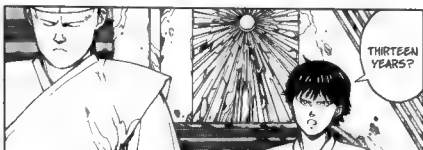
I IMAGINE THEY WERE UNDER
A GREAT DEAL OF PRESSURE
FROM OUTSIDE TO PRODUCE
RESULTS.

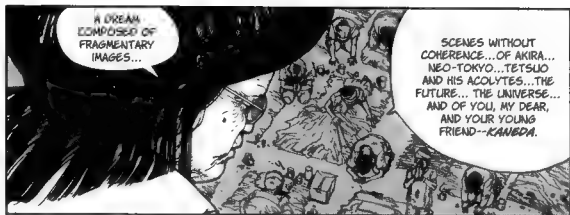


THEY TOOK
CHANCES WITH
A VERY RISKY
PROCESS.



IN RETROSPECT,
I WOULD GUESS THAT
WE WERE THE GUINEA PIGS
FOR THE WORK THAT LED TO
THE CREATION OF NUMBER
20...AND THOSE WHO
FOLLOWED.





A DREAM
COMPOSED OF
FRAGMENTARY
IMAGES...

SCENES WITHOUT
COHERENCE...OF AKIRA...
NEO-TOKYO...TETSUO
AND HIS ACOLYTES...THE
FUTURE... THE UNIVERSE...
AND OF YOU, MY DEAR,
AND YOUR YOUNG
FRIEND--KANEDA.



KA...
KANEDA?!



WHAT DO YOU
KNOW ABOUT
HIM?

DO YOU WHAT
HAPPENED TO
HIM?



HE'S
BEYOND THE
BOUNDARIES
OF THIS
WORLD!



TAP
TAP

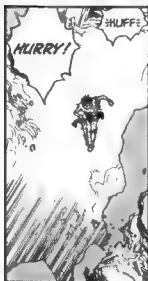
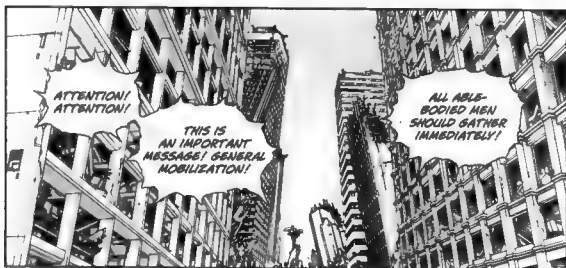


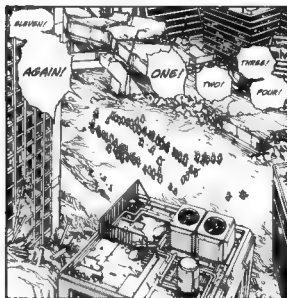
...FOR THE
MOMENT...

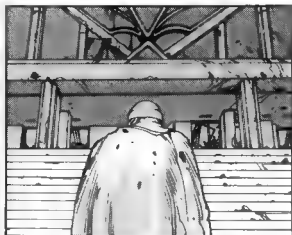
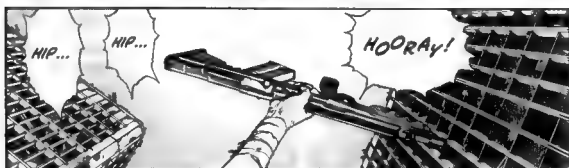


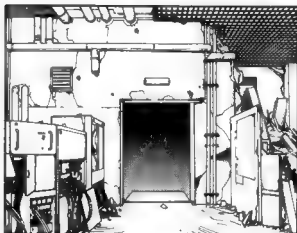
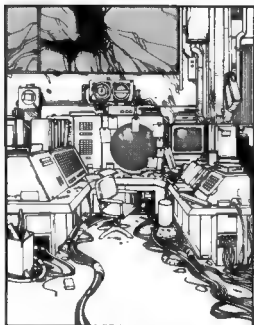
GLORY
TO YOU!

LADY
MIYAKO!





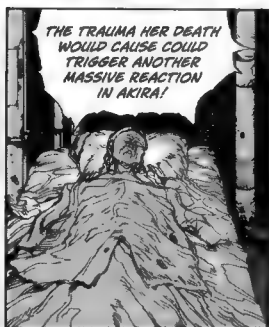




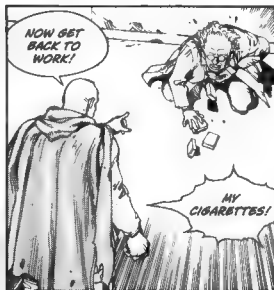


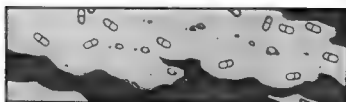
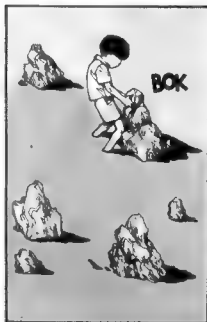
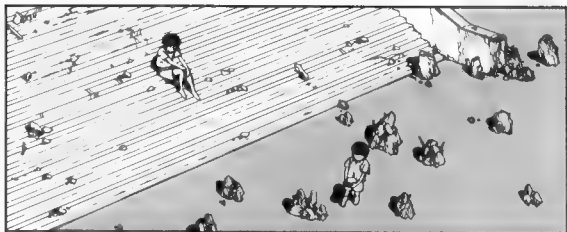


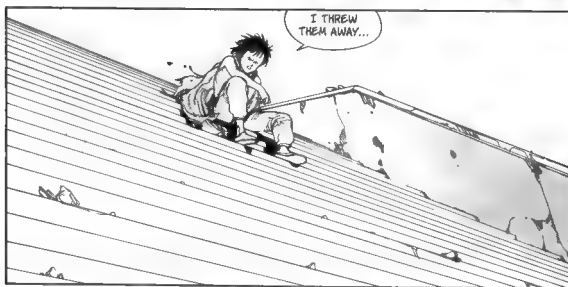
KILL HER
RIGHT
NOW!



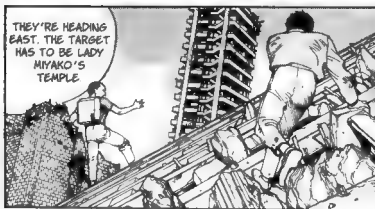
I HAVE
NOTHING
LEFT TO
LOSE!

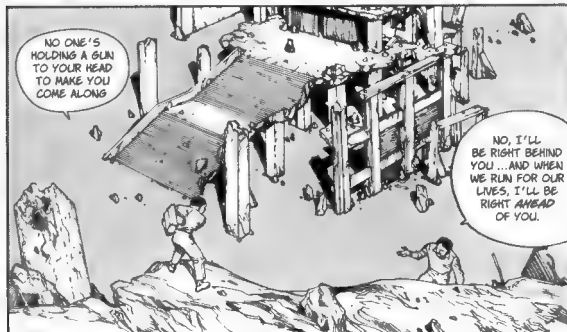
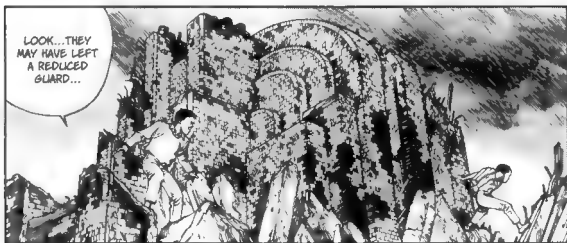


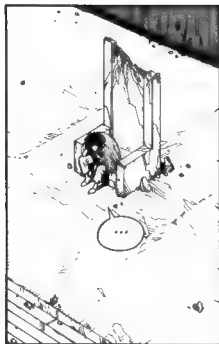


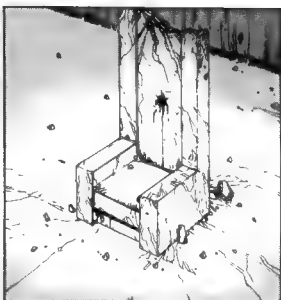


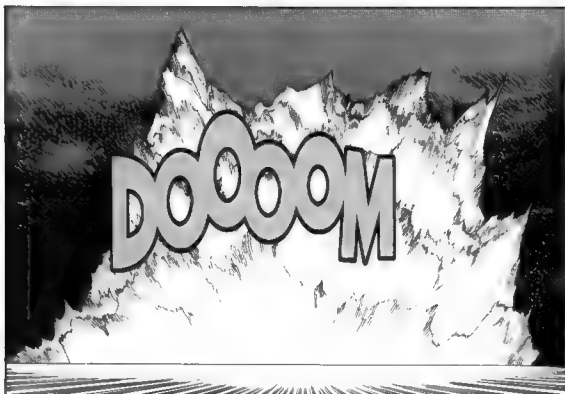
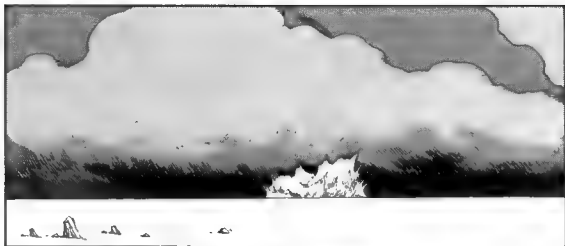


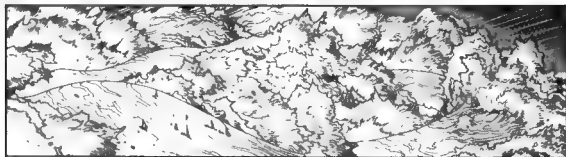
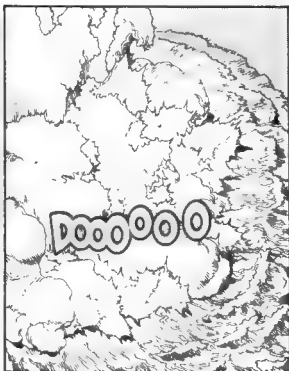




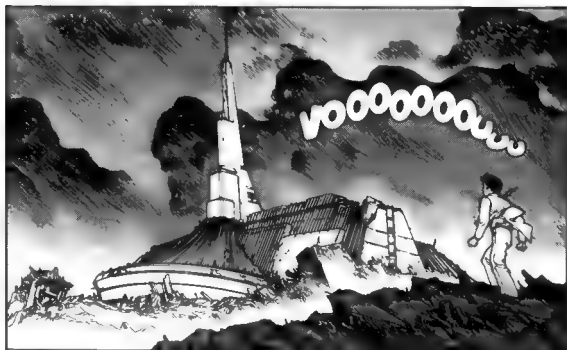
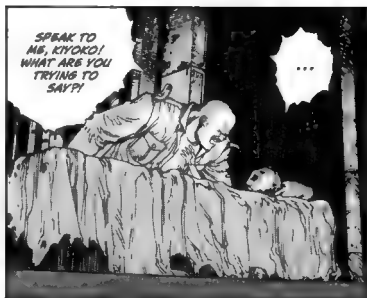


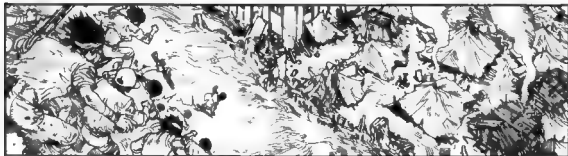


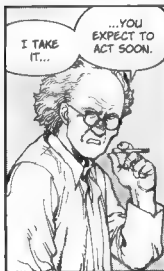
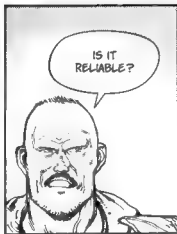


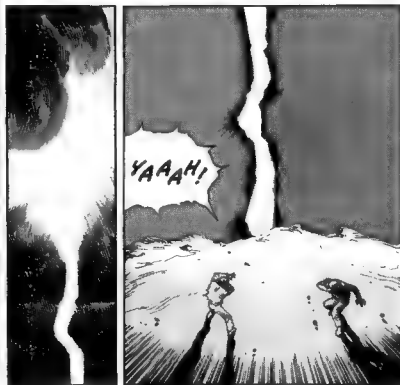






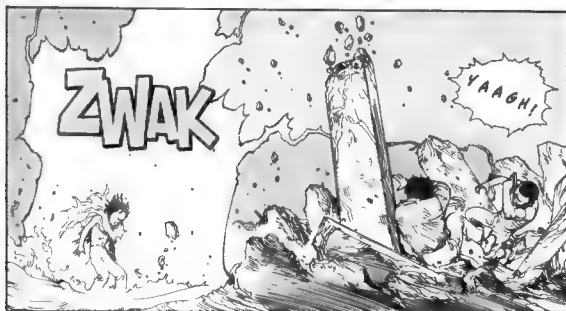


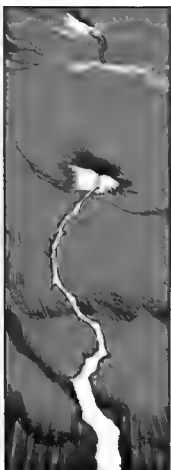
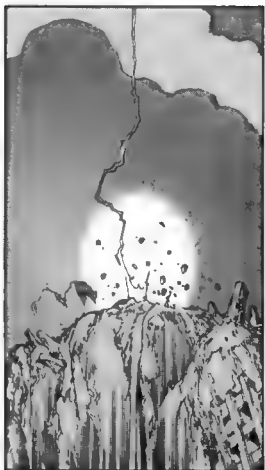




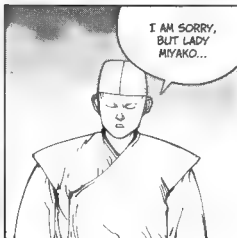


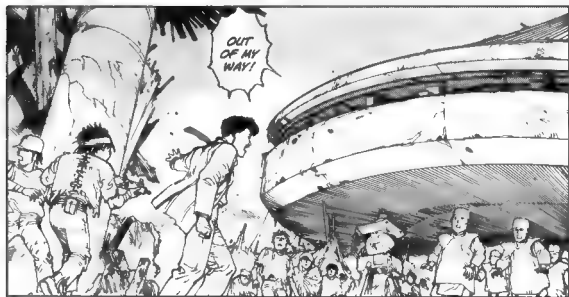
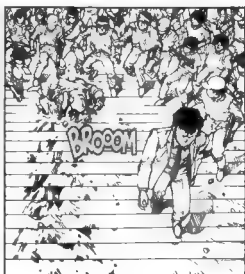


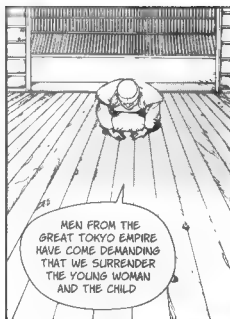
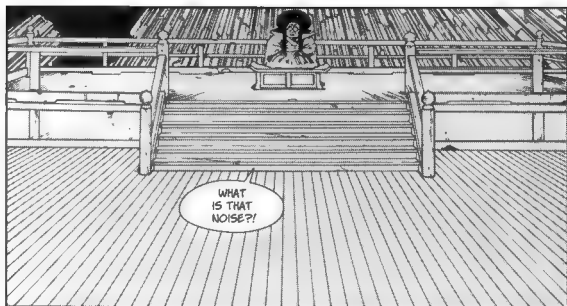


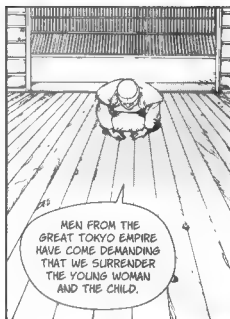
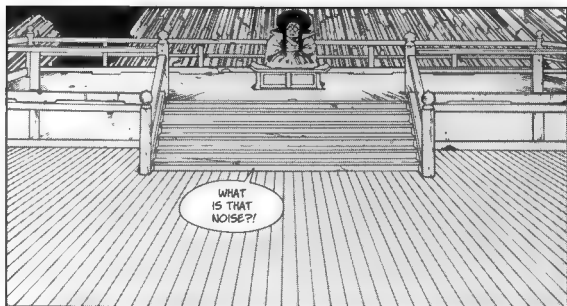








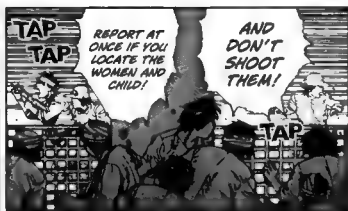






YOU
GO
THAT
WAY!

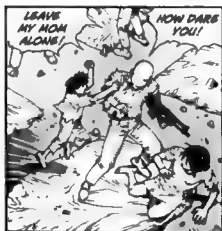
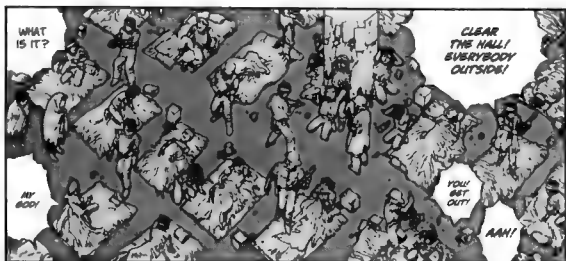
EVERY-
ONE ELSE
FOLLOW
ME!

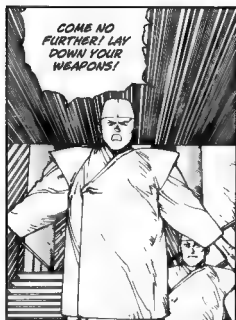


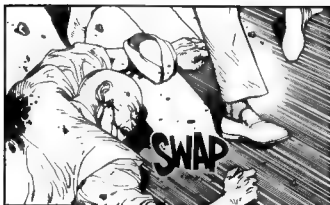
AND
DON'T
SHOOT
THEM!

TAP

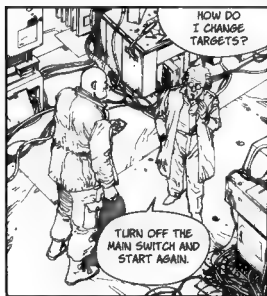
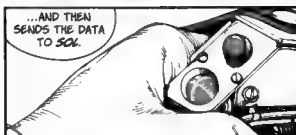
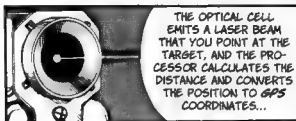
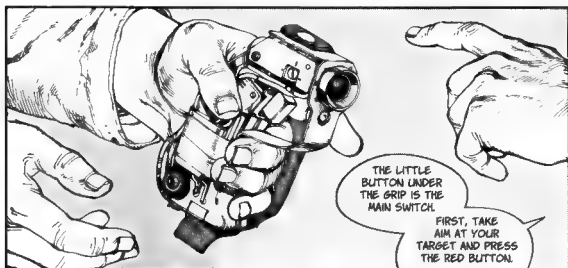


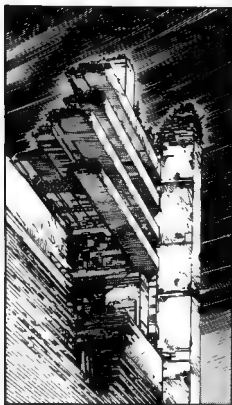




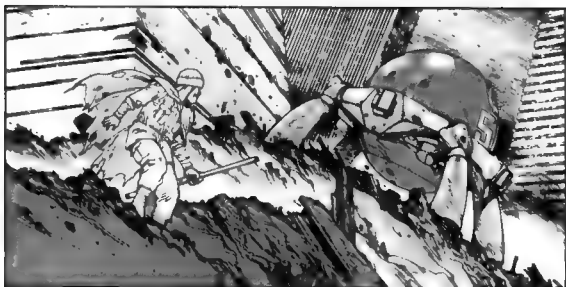


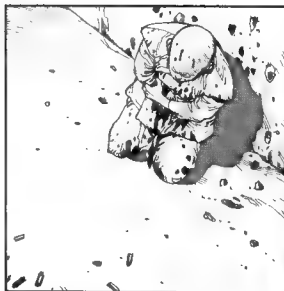


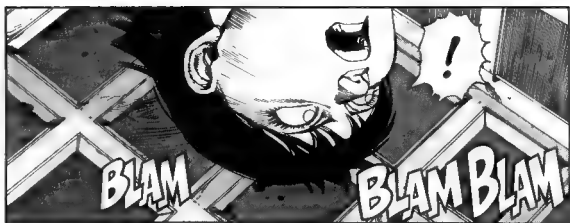




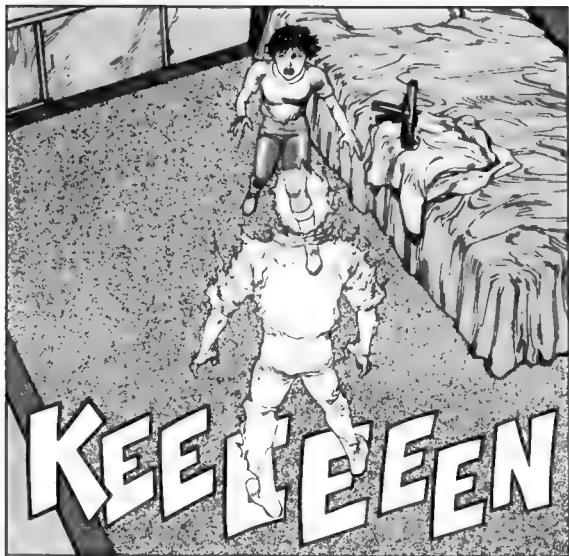




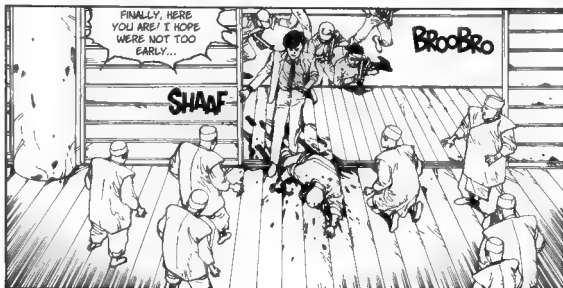
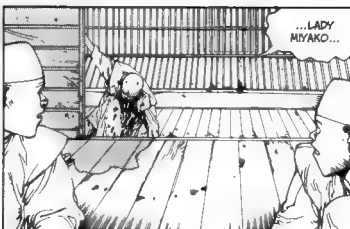


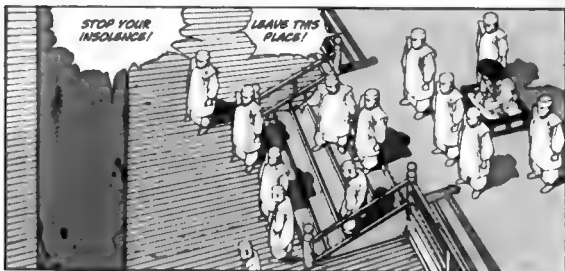












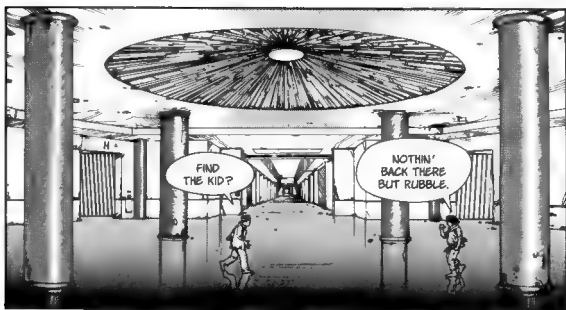


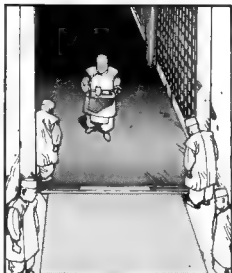
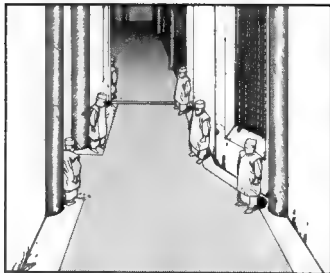


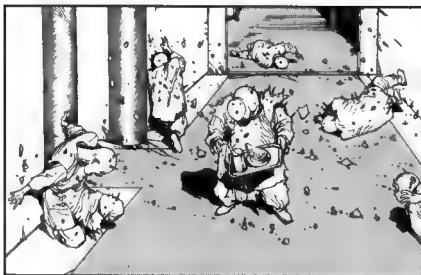


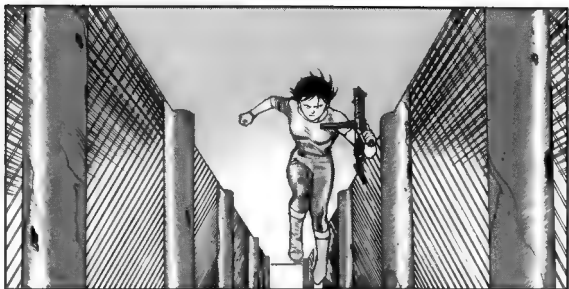


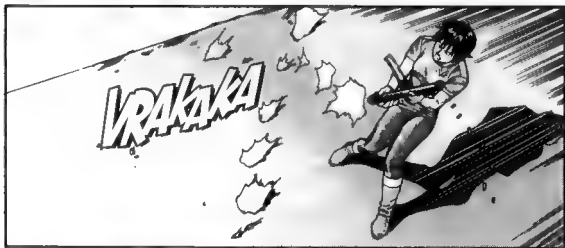


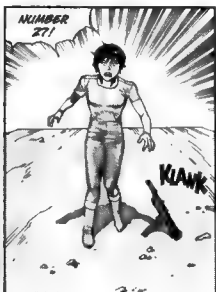
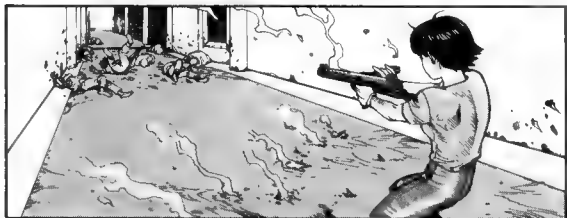


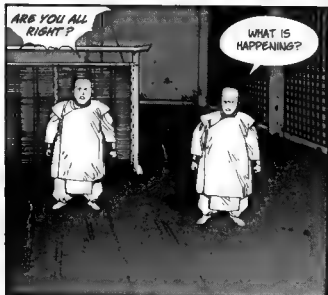


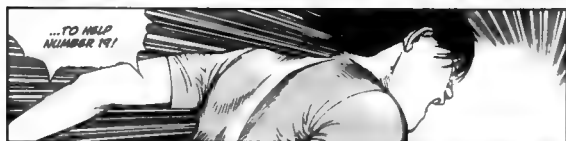


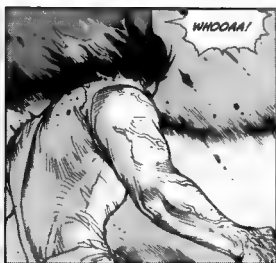


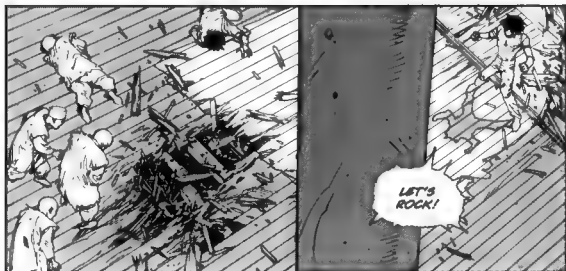


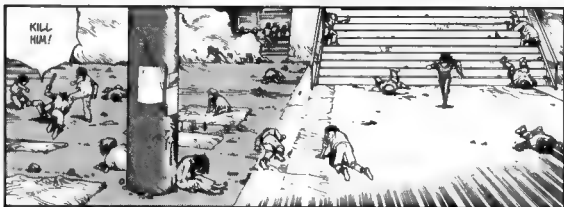
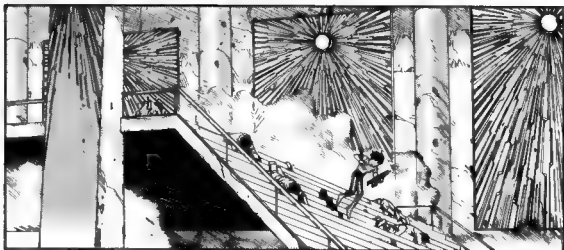


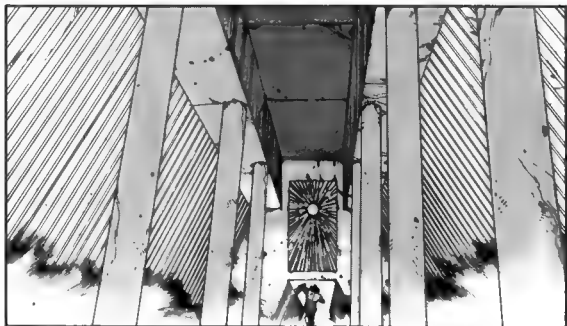




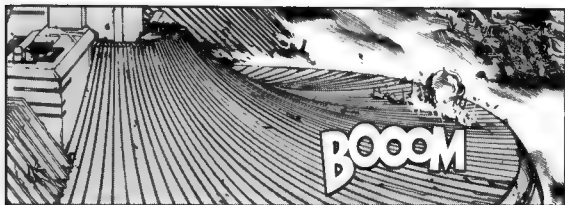


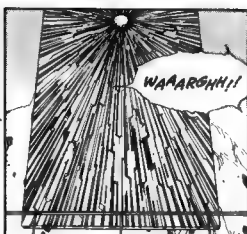
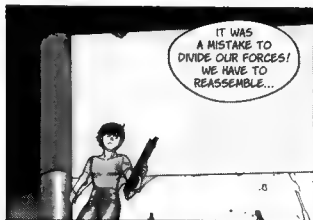
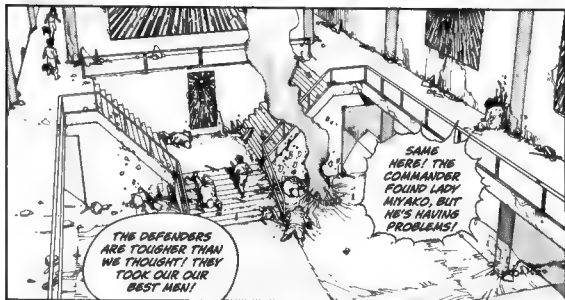


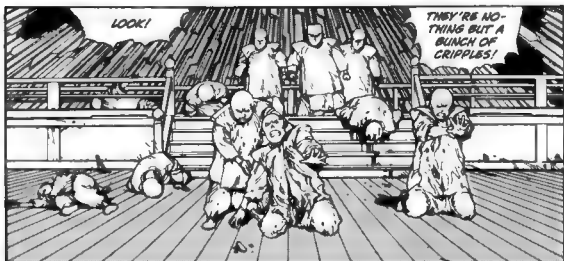
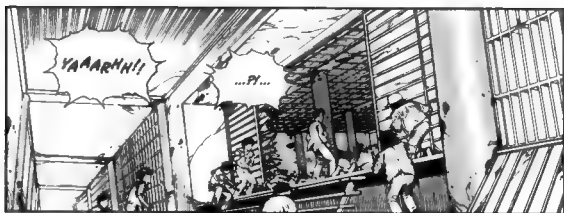


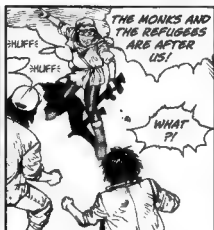
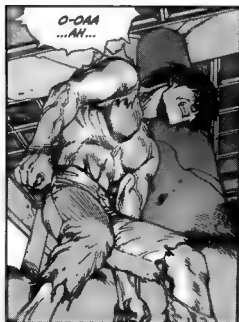






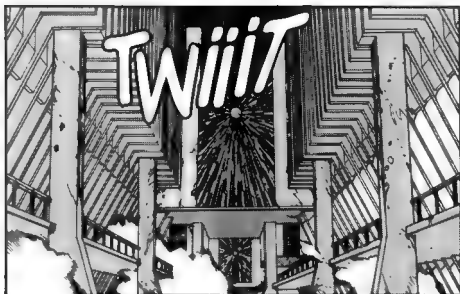


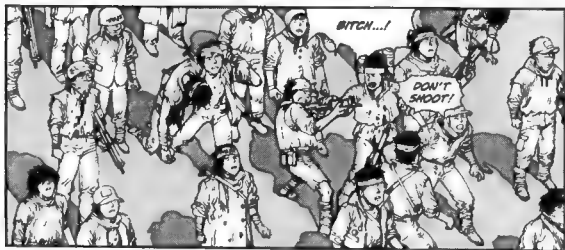
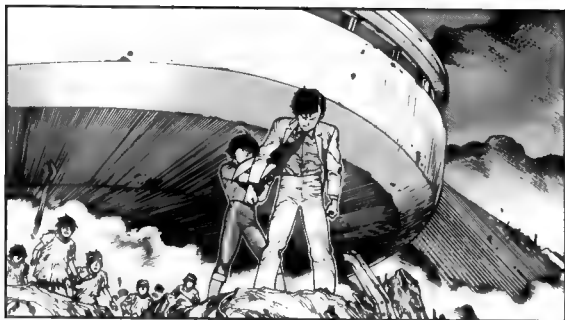






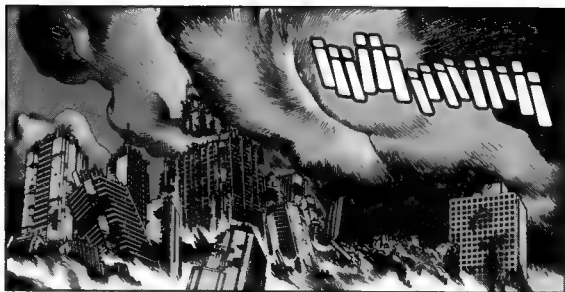




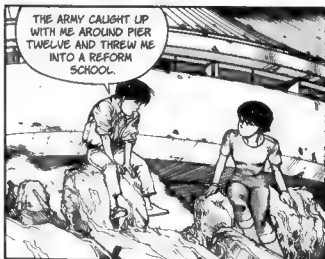
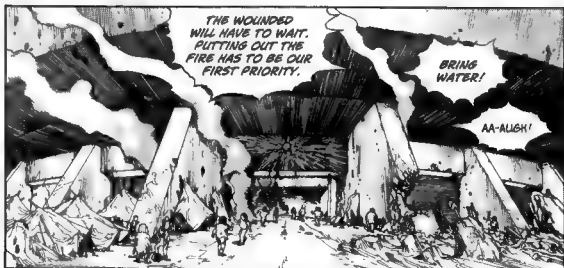


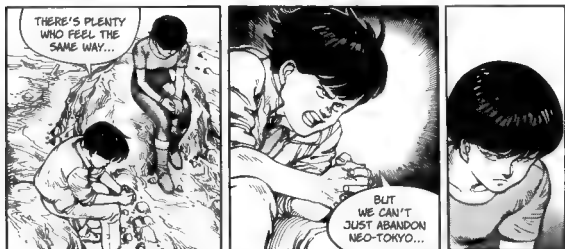






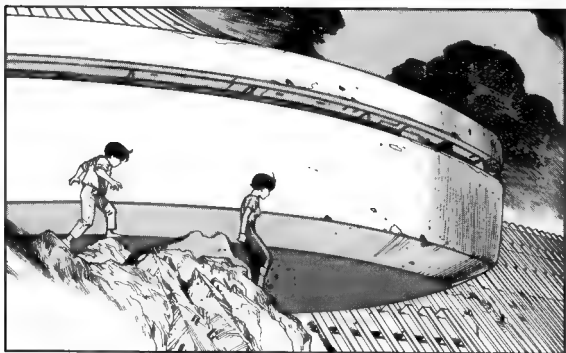
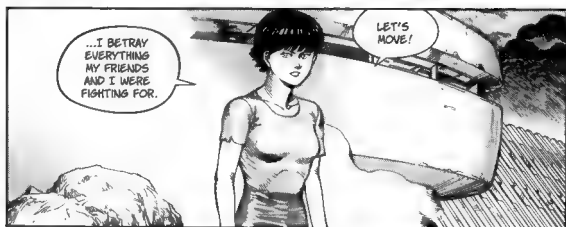






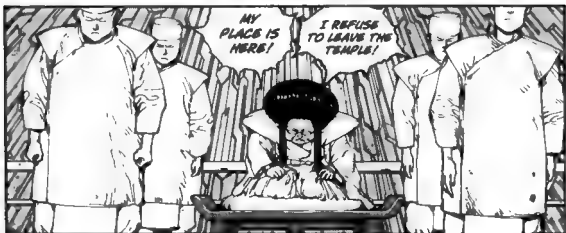
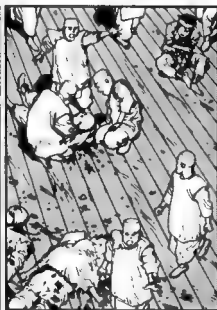
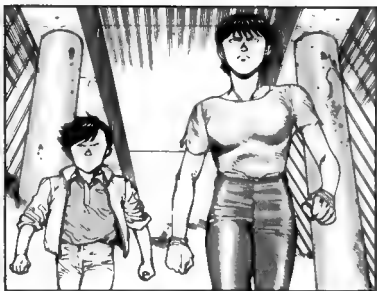














BUT THEY'LL
BE BACK, AND
IN GREATER
NUMBERS!

WE'RE NOT
STRONG ENOUGH
TO STAND UP TO
THEM AGAIN.



AND NEXT
TIME, TETSUO
MAY COME,
TOO.



DO
YOU BELIEVE
I COULD FORSAKE
MY FOLLOWERS
AND ALL THESE
POOR PEOPLE
WHO BELIEVE
IN ME...

...JUST TO
SAVE MYSELF?

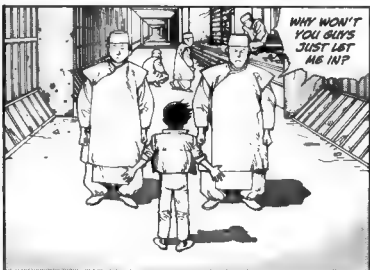


THE ONES THEY
WANT ARE YOU, ME,
AND NUMBER 27.
IF WE AREN'T HERE,
THEY MAY LEAVE
EVERYONE ELSE
ALONE.

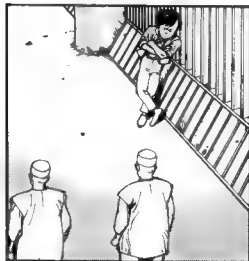
TOO MANY
LIVES HAVE
ALREADY BEEN
WASTED!



TSS!

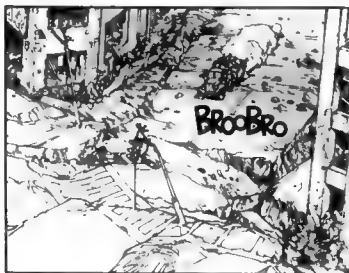


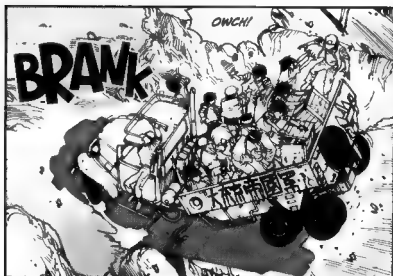
WHY WON'T
YOU GUYS
JUST LET
ME IN?















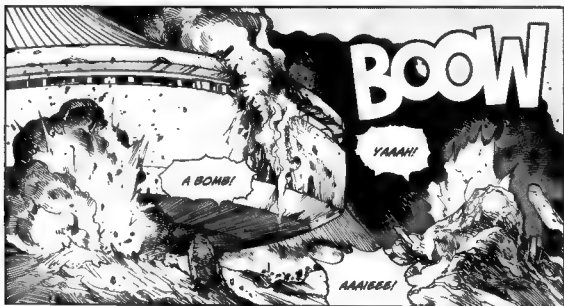
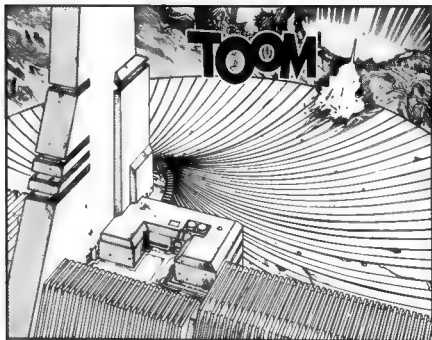
HERE!

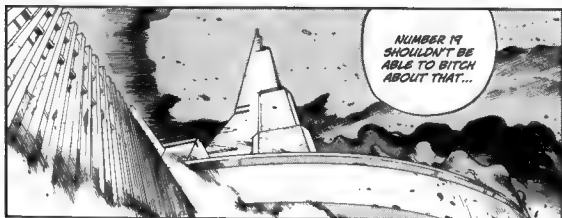
ARE
THERE MEN
POSTED AT THE
BRIDGE?

YESSIR!
AND WE PLACED
EXPLOSIVES ON
THE CENTRAL
PILLAR!

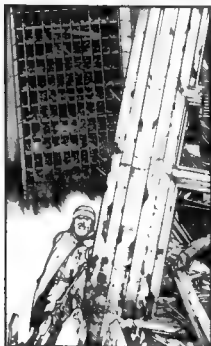










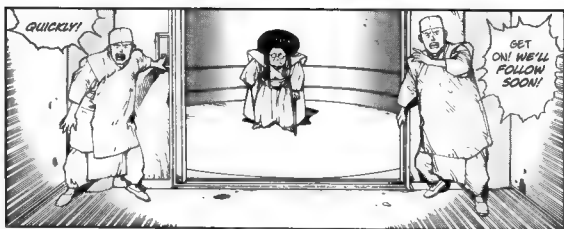








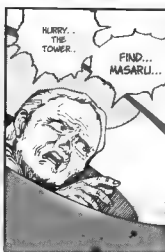
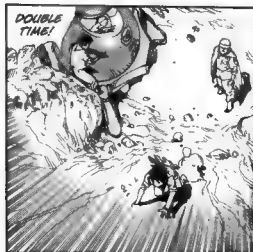
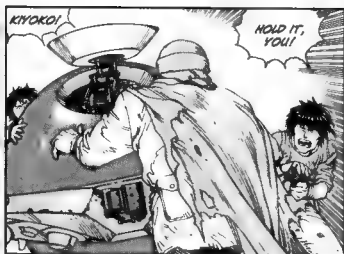
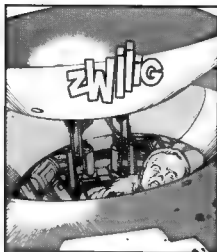


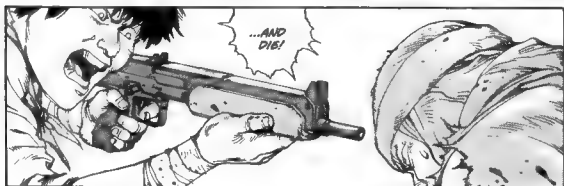


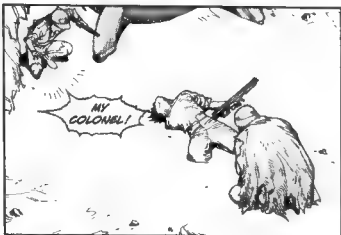
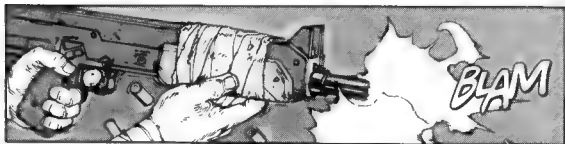














ARE YOU
SURE IT'S THE
SAME LITTLE
GIRL?



A STRANGER
HAD HER HIDDEN
IN ONE OF
THOSE CARE-
TAKER
ROBOTS.

SHE LOOKS
JUST LIKE THE
KID WE'VE BEEN
SEARCHING
FOR.



GOOD!

ALL
THE PRETTY
FLOWERS...



... FINALLY
TOGETHER
IN ONE BIG
BOUQUET!



THERE ARE TWO
MEN GUARDING THE
STRANGER, BUT HE
LOOKS PRETTY
TOUGH.



TAKE FIVE
OR SIX MORE
WITH YOU

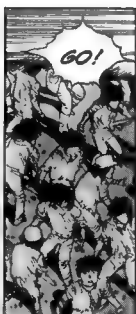
IF HE
GIVES YOU ANY
TROUBLE, KILL HIM!
BUT LEAVE THE
GIRL ALONE.



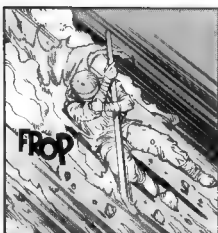
HEY,
YOU
GUYS!

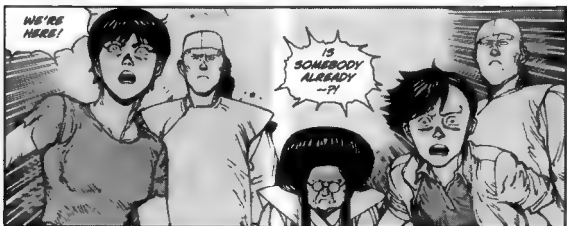
... I DON'T
WANT HER
TOUCHED!

LISTEN
UP!

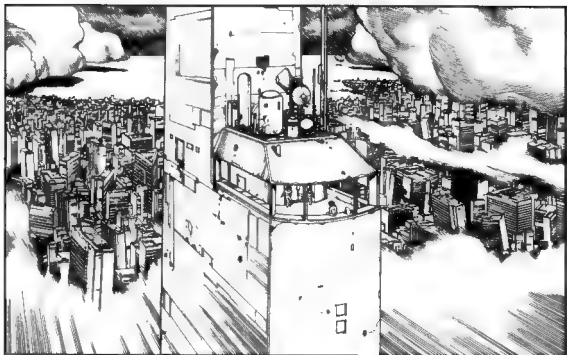


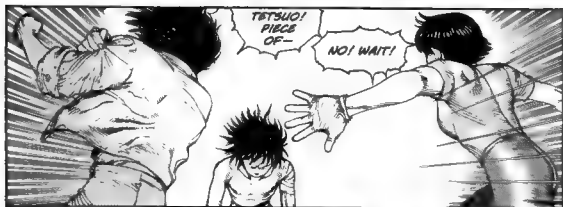




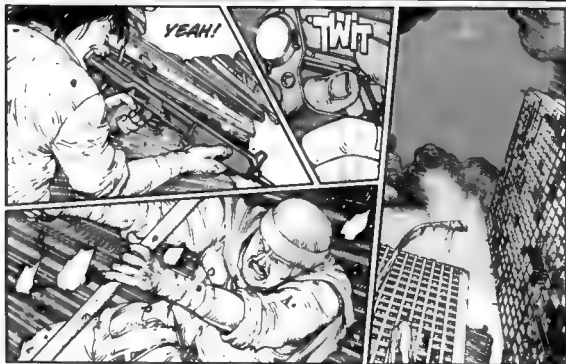


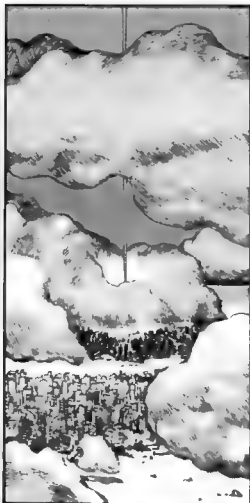


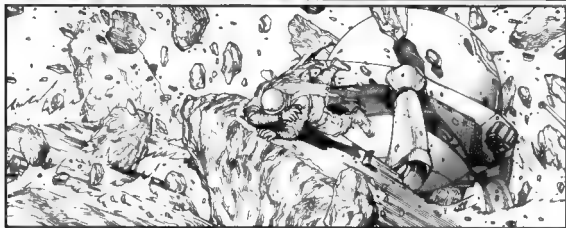


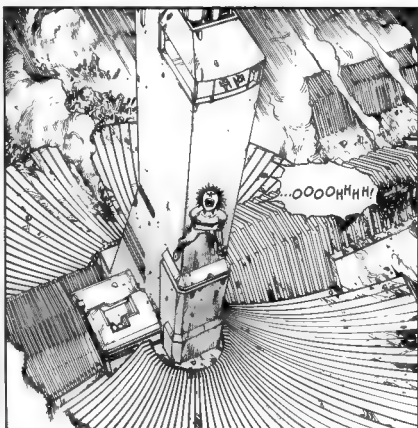


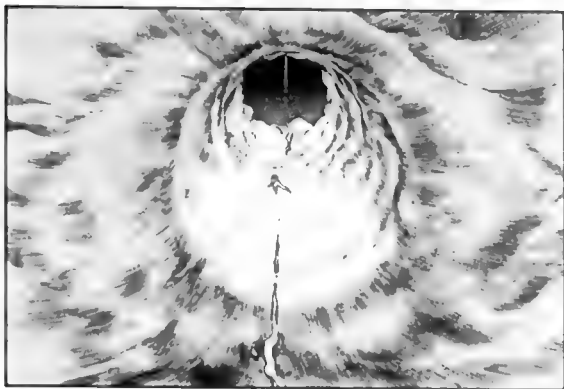






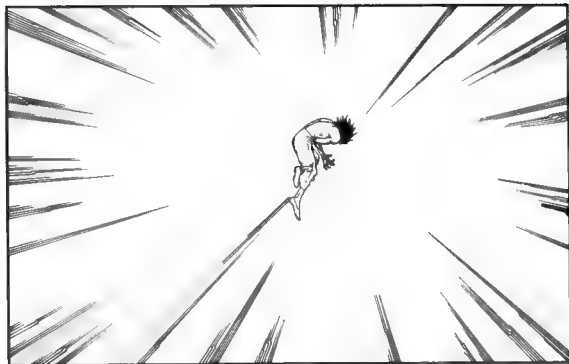


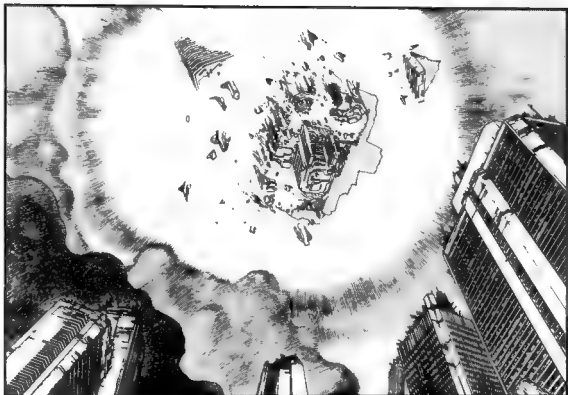


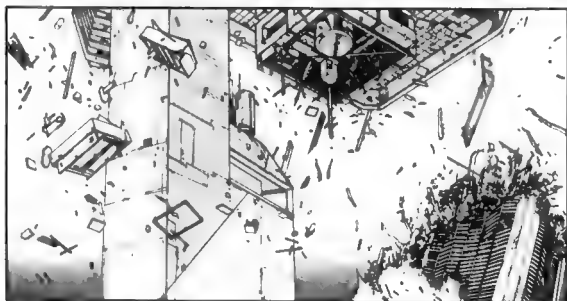
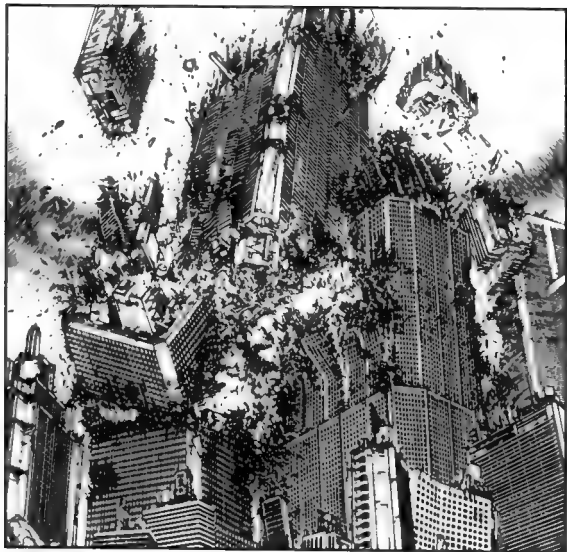


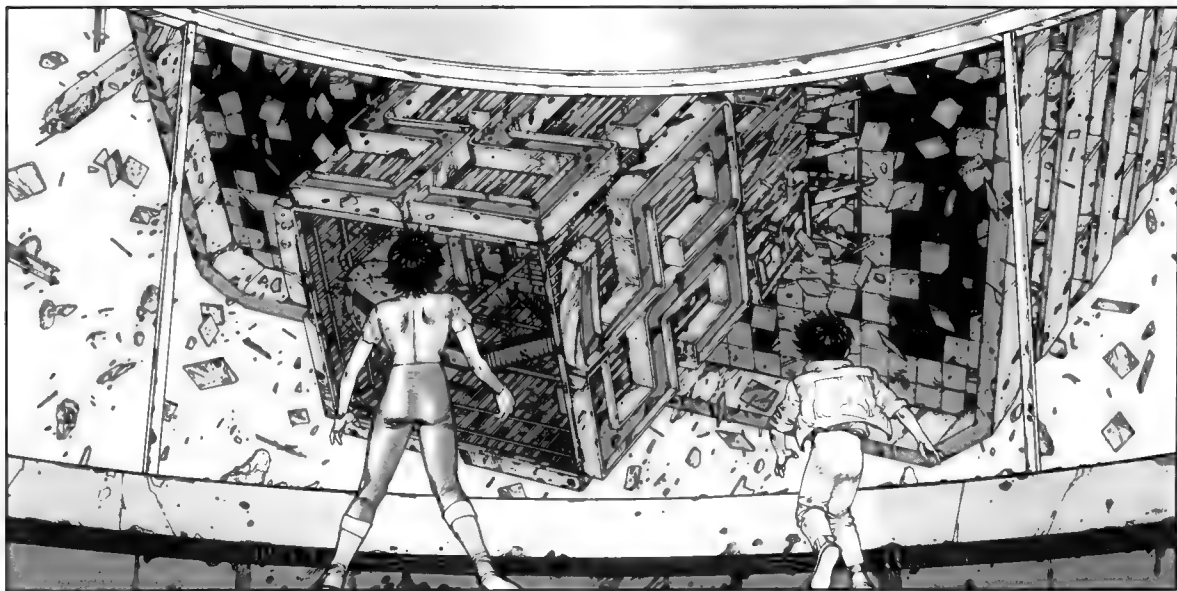


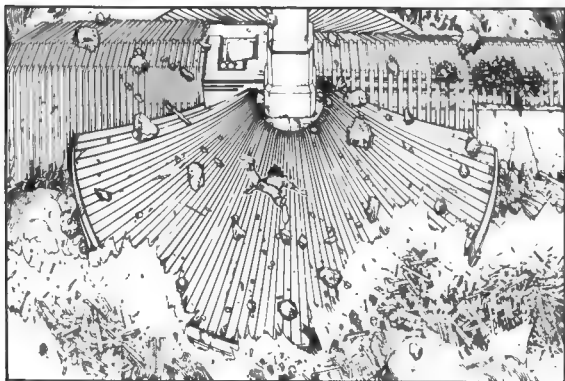


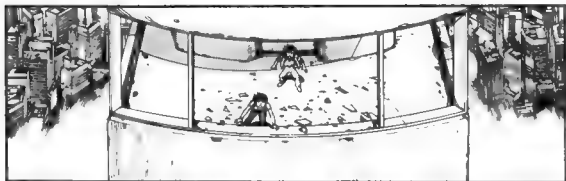




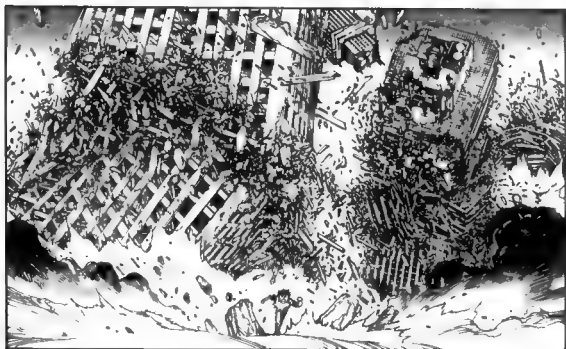
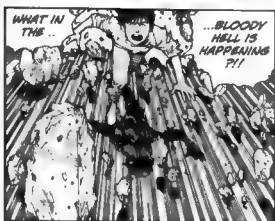
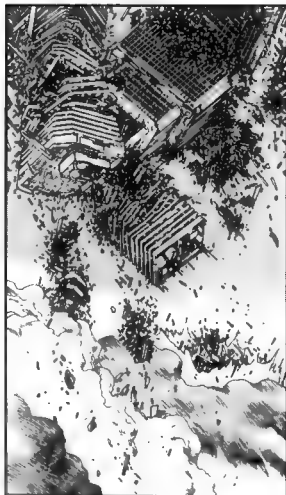




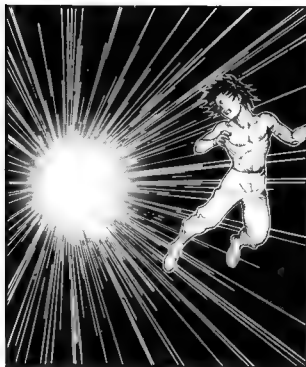


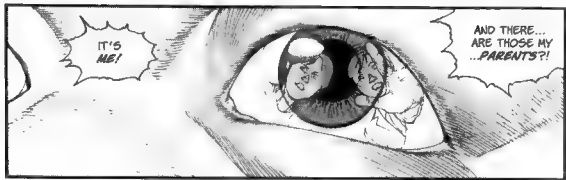
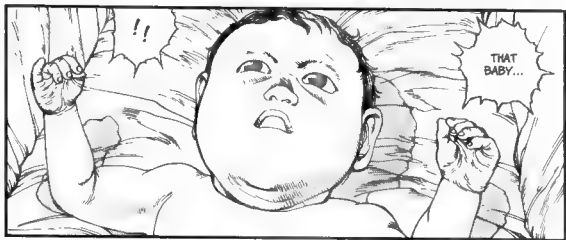




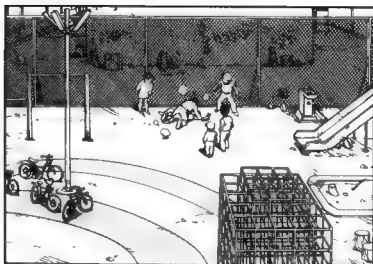


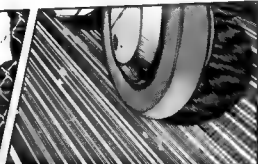
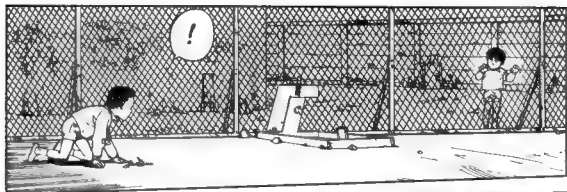




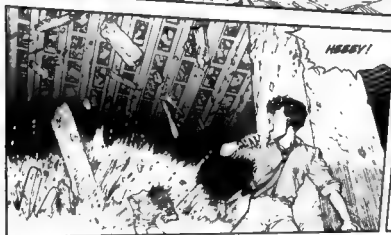
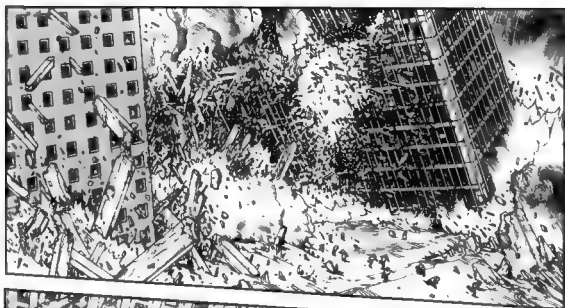


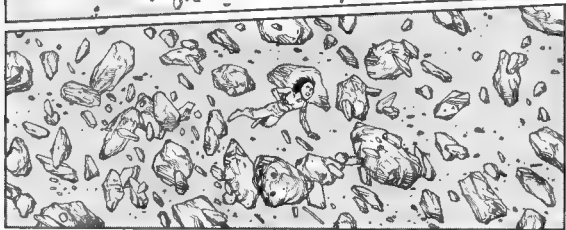
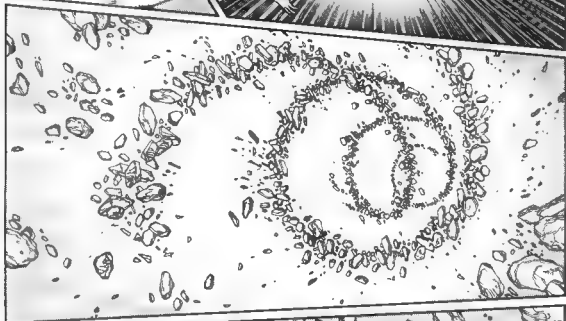
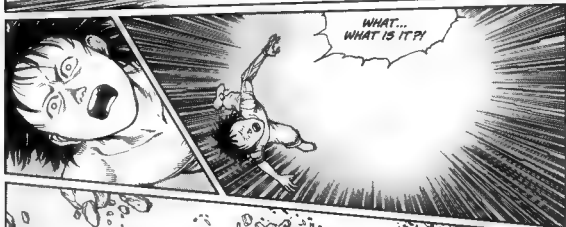


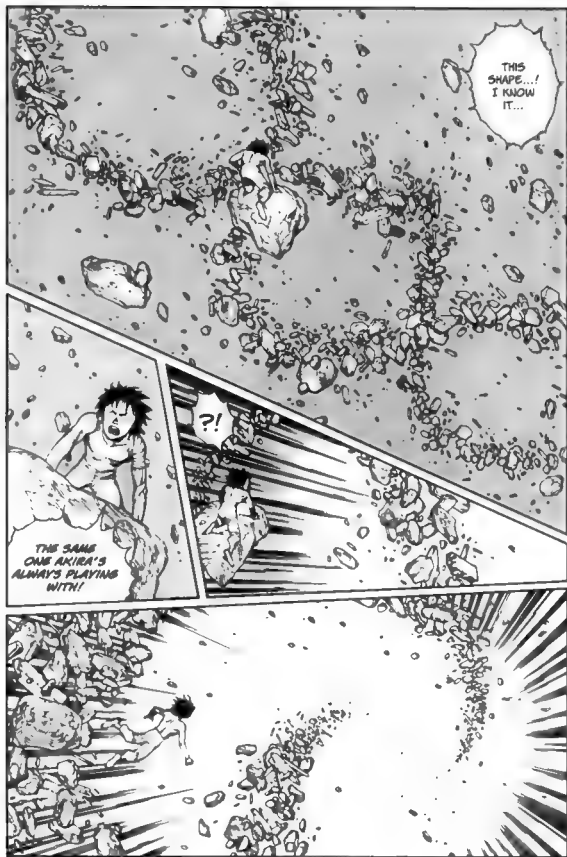




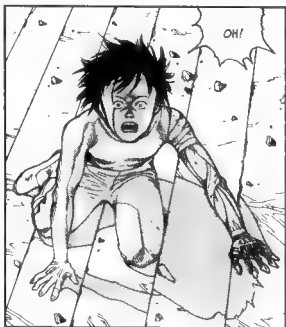
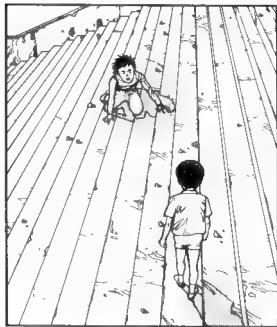
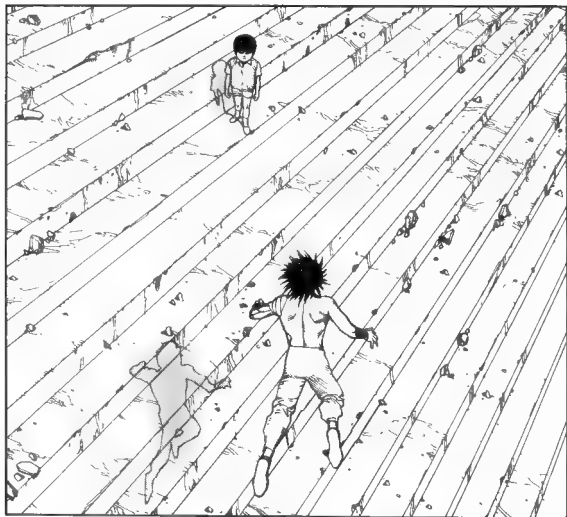


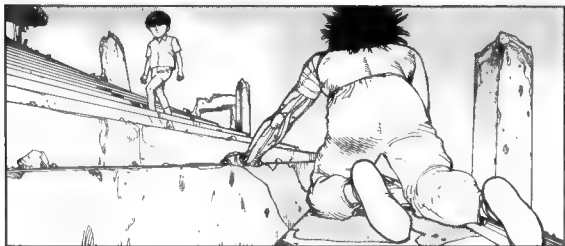
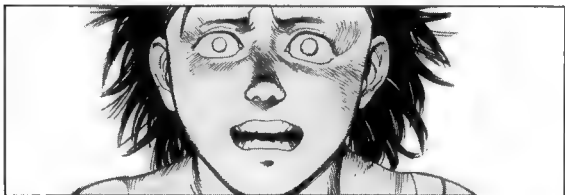
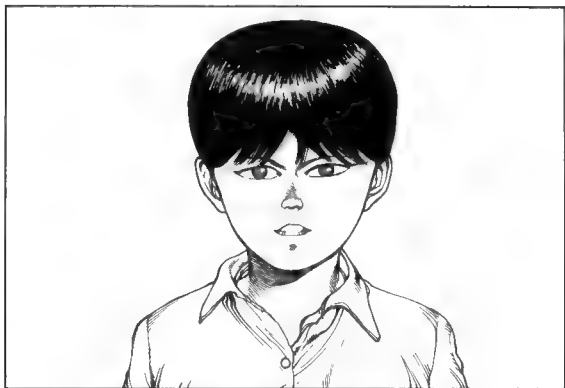


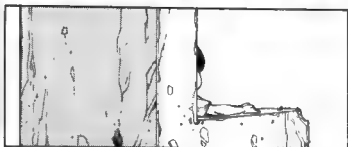


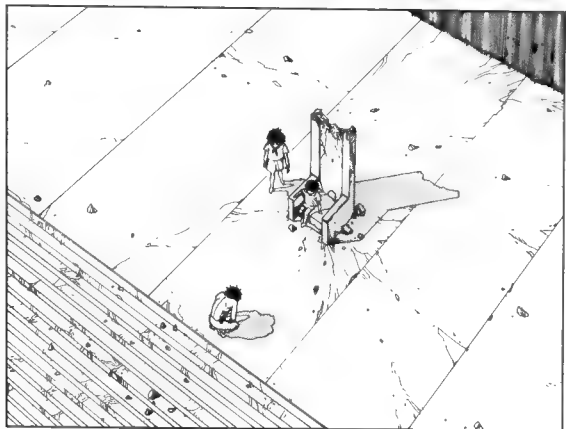
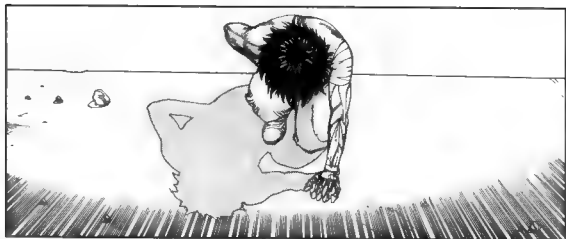


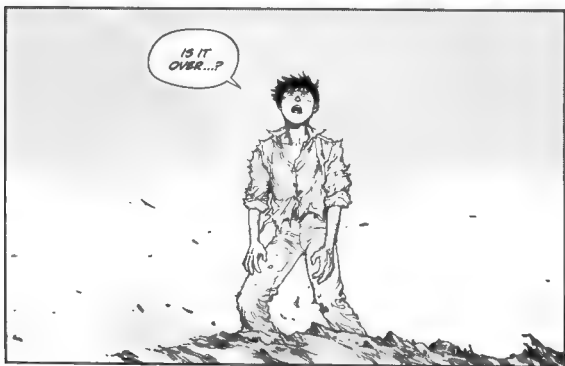
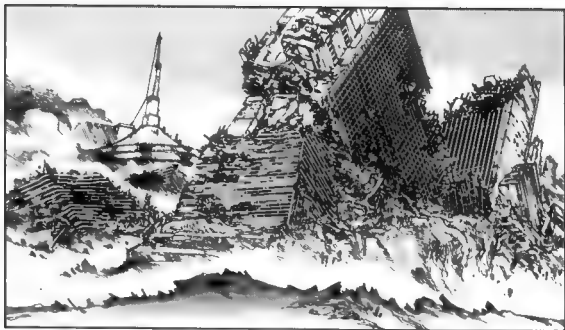


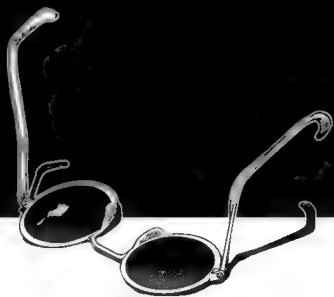














**SUFFERING
THE FATE THAT DESERVES**

its namesake three decades earlier, 21st century Neo-Tokyo lies in ruin. Set off by the bullet of a would-be assassin, the godlike telekinetic fury of the superhuman child Akira has once again demolished in seconds that which took decades and untold billions to build. Now cut off from the rest of world, the Great Tokyo Empire rises, with Akira its king, the psychic juggernaut Tetsuo its mad prime minister, and a growing army of fanatic acolytes ready to go to any length to please their masters. Forces on the outside still search for a way to stop Akira, and the answer may lie in the hands of the mysterious Lady Miyako, a powerful member of Akira's paranormal brotherhood. But the solution to harnessing Akira may ultimately be more dangerous than Akira himself!

Nearly twenty years since its original release in Japan, *Akira* remains one of the most widely acclaimed and influential works of graphic fiction, and creator Katsuhiro Otomo has become a legendary storyteller in animation as well as manga. *Akira* is a science-fiction tour-de-force, a breathtaking vision of innocence, infamy, and insanity.

Figure 1. The structure of the proposed model.

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AKIRA

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**KATSUHIRO
OTOMO**



\$27.95 U.S., \$41.95 CANADA
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KATSUHIRO OTOMO





translation and english-language adaptation

**YOKO UMEZAWA, JO DUFFY, STUDIO PROTEUS,
and DARK HORSE COMICS**

graphics adaptation and sound-effects lettering

**DAVID SCHMITT for DIGIBOX
and ÉDITIONS GLÉNAT**

digital lettering and additional graphics adaptation

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AKIRA

KATSUHIRO OTOMO



AKIRA BOOK FIVE

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The artwork of this volume has been produced as a mirror-image of the original Japanese edition to conform to English-language standards.

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**BOOK
FIVE**



DARK HORSE COMICS®

THE STORY SO FAR

21st century Neo-Tokyo stands on the ashes of Tokyo, destroyed half a decade earlier by the time of a child — the mind of Akira. Subject of a military project gone horribly wrong, Akira was placed in cryogenic hibernation after the holocaust until his infinite powers could be harnessed. The other survivors of 'The Project,' formidable psychics withering away in children's bodies, know that one day Akira will awaken.

Enter Tetsuo, an angry young member of a motorcycle gang led by his friend Kaneda. A violent adolescent sets off within Tetsuo dormant psychokinetic abilities that grow rapidly, as does a raging headache and a virulent madness. Tetsuo soon involves in a psychic killing spree against friend and foe, turning Kaneda from blood-brother to mortal enemy. Tetsuo has now gone unbalanced by 'The Project's' leader, the mysterious Colonel, who uses a super-drug to quell Tetsuo's agony while increasing his powers and bringing Tetsuo under his thrall. But Tetsuo soon goes beyond the control of the Colonel and his psychics — Takashi, Masaru, and Kiyoko — and Tetsuo's discovery of Akira's existence rouses within him the urge to confront the field super-hero.

Avengeful Kaneda allies with a resistance group, recruiting the beautiful Kei and her partner Ryu, in an attempt to null Tetsuo and infiltrate the secret subterranean lab that houses the sleeper Akira. They enter the facility and find Tetsuo in combat with the Colonel's security forces. Tetsuo's psychic vibrations stir Akira, and the child emerges from his frozen prison. Tetsuo helps the bewildered child to the surface, but the fanatic Colonel orders the gigantic tank commander of the military satellite SOL to fire on Tetsuo and Akira. Tetsuo's arm is shredded, and the two become separated in the mayhem. Tetsuo disappears, but Kaneda and Kei find Akira and take him to safety.

A state of emergency blankets Neo-Tokyo as the population heads for shelter, the streets quarantined by military patrols and Caracal robot sentries. Kaneda and Kei — along with Chiyoeko, a powerful woman of the resistance — bring Akira to a yacht for safekeeping, but the duplicitous resistance leader, Mezu, takes Akira to use as a weapon against the government and orders the three killed. Chiyoeko fights them

away to freedom, and they invade Mezu's home, where they capture Akira. The Colonel's forces eventually corner Akira, who for the first time in decades sees Masaru, Kiyoko, and Takashi. The reunion is cut short by Mezu, who is trying to kill Akira rather than let him fall into government hands, shoots Takashi, whose death triggers Akira's power. A titanic psychic wave surges through Neo-Tokyo, and the citizenry struggle desperately to survive the cataclysm. As the destruction subsides, Akira sits alone at ground zero. A lone figure approaches him through the wreckage. It is Tetsuo.

From the flooded ruins rises the Great Tokyo Empire, a small army of crazed zealots focused around Akira's miracles but under the manipulative control of Tetsuo. The Empire seeks total off from the world, but undercover agents from the government to assess the threat. The Empire plans to neutralize its most immediate enemies, the crime psychics and Lady Miyako — an enigmatic, ambiguous figure and Project survivor — whose temple is a haven for refugees. Tetsuo begins developing the super-drug to "voluntarize" himself, but a harmful dosing the Power and become Empire shock troops. The volunteers are caught and massacred by the new psychics, but one operative, Yamada, evades capture.

Kai, Chiyoeko, and Ryu have survived along with Masaru and Kiyoko, but Kaneda is nowhere to be found, assumed lost in the holocaust. Deprived of the super-drug, Masaru and Kiyoko are recaptured, and Chiyoeko and Kai set out to enlist the aid of Miyako, who gives them the drug and instructs them to return with Masaru and Kiyoko. Meanwhile, Ryu observes Yamada's escape and leaves to investigate. He finds the agent and offers his assistance to Yamada, who makes a beeline for Akira's stronghold. With Ryu gone, Empire spies kidnap Masaru and Kiyoko. Chiyoeko and Kai return to find the children missing, and the two set off after their charges. They catch up to the Empire's soldiers and free Masaru, but Kiyoko's captors escape. Kai sets off for the Temple with Masaru while Chiyoeko, wounded in battle, goes after Kiyoko.

Tetsuo also gives the drug to young women for his pleasure and amusement. They live in agony, but Kei, who pulls the drug. She becomes Tetsuo's companion and Akira's nanny. Tetsuo has a series of confusing visions, and he realizes his thoughts are being manipulated by Akira. Tetsuo confronts the child, who draws Tetsuo into his mind and teleports him back to his chambers. Tetsuo withdraws in terror, having seen too far into the thoughts of the psychi-

cologist. He eventually comes to his senses and decides that Miyako might be of some use to him. He takes more drugs, kicking his power to new heights, and transports across space to Miyako's chamber. Miyako gives him the history of the Project and the revelation that the drug was designed to inhibit his psychic development. Only by going cold Turkey will he become an Akira — perhaps even a match for Akira. He leaves to contemplate his future.

Chiyoeko recaptures Kiyoko but is trapped and further injured after narrowly escaping one of Tetsuo's newly bred psychics. Facing almost certain capture, the two are rescued by the Colonel, who takes them back to a still-inactive facility manned by a scientist stricken with cocaine withdrawal. Kiyoko reveals that Masaru is in Miyako's temple, and the Colonel places her inside a Caracal robot and begins the arduous journey through the rubble in the tunnels. He takes with him a special miniature targeting device for the super-laser of SOL.

Tetsuo begins his agonizing withdrawal. Tetsuo's lieutenant, upon discovering that Masaru has reached safety in Miyako's shrine, is unable to get through to his anguished master and takes matters into his own hands by organizing an assault on the temple. Many innocent religious and monks are killed, but the attack is eventually repelled, partially by the psychic skills of the temple's priests and finally by Kai taking Tetsuo's lieutenant hostage. She eventually lets him go, but he vows to return.

Tetsuo appears to Ryu and Yamada and tells them that he has seen the America fleet on their way shore, ready to attack, but unwilling to get too close due to the power of Akira. Yamada tries to shoot Tetsuo, who easily stops him, but then he disappears as quickly as he appeared.

As the Colonel nears the temple, a second attack by the Empire begins. Cornered, the Colonel agrees to unleash the power of SOL. Kai, Masaru, Miyako, and her monks retreat to the chapel of the temple as a final stronghold. At that moment, Tetsuo appears, half-mad with pain, demanding mercy from Miyako. As the superlaser of SOL ignites, Tetsuo rises howling into the air, unleashing his power and tossing wandering skyscrapers about him so many times. But Tetsuo goes on, transcending time and space, reliving his birth, and eventually meeting Akira. Tetsuo falls to his knees before this match.

And in the vast wasteland of ruined Neo-Tokyo, Kaneda suddenly appears...



KANEDA



TETSUO



KEI



RYU



THE COLONEL



MASARU



KIYOKO



TETSUO'S AIDE



CHIYOEKO



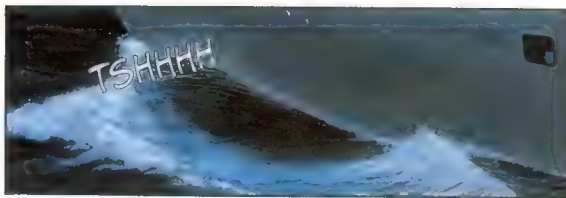
LADY MIYAKO



KAORI



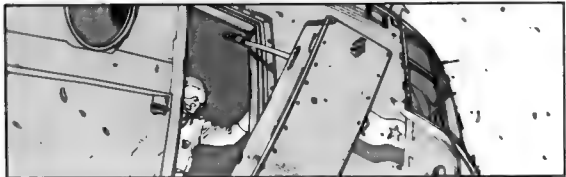
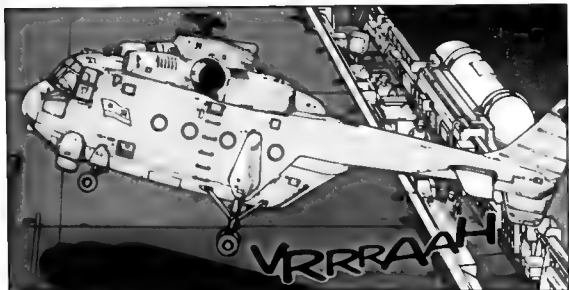
AKIRA

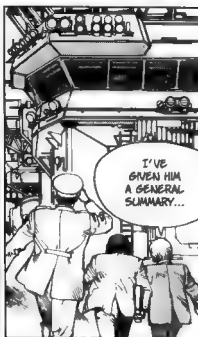
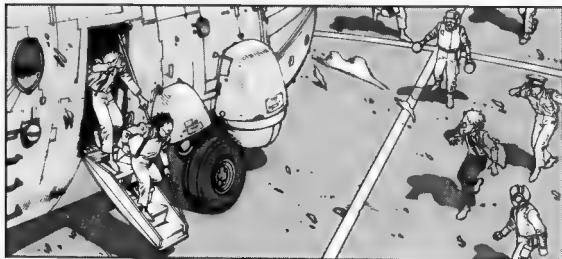


AKIRA













THE PRESIDENT
HAS BEEN INFORMED
OF YOUR COUNTRY'S
DECISION TO WITHDRAW
HER FORCES...

...TO THE BOUNDARIES
DICTATED BY THE PROVISIONS
OF THE 2000 ACCORD. I
APPLAUD YOUR WISE AND
COURAGEOUS DECISION
TO JOIN US HERE.



I APPRECIATE THAT. I
AM NOT A SOLDIER, BUT
IT IS OBVIOUS THAT
THIS CONFLICT HAS
GROWN...

...OUT OF MISTRUST
AND MISUNDER-
STANDING ON BOTH
SIDES. SOMEONE
MUST BE WILLING
TO TAKE THE
FIRST STEP.



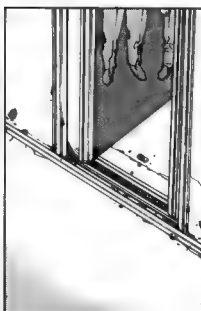
PLEASE THANK YOUR
PRESIDENT FOR AGREEING
TO THIS JOINT RUSSIAN-
AMERICAN APPROACH
FOR THE SOLUTION
TO THIS CRISIS.

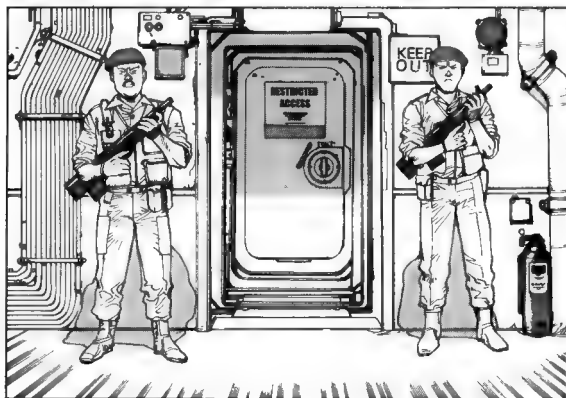
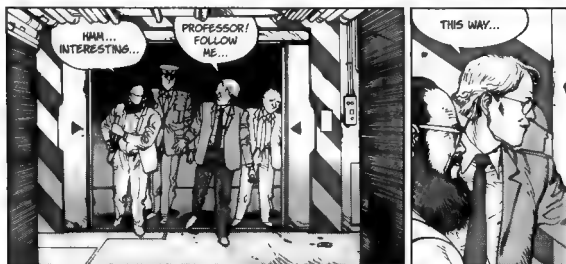


I REALIZE THE PROFESSOR IS
PROBABLY TIRED FROM HIS LONG
JOURNEY, BUT I'D LIKE TO SHOW
HIM THE LABORATORY AND
INTRODUCE HIM TO
OUR STAFF.

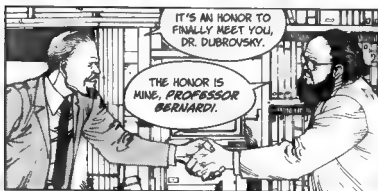
I WOULD LIKE
THAT. WE MUST
BEGIN OPERATIONS
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

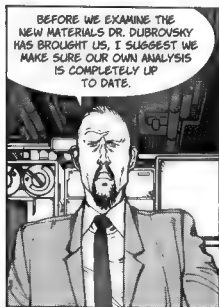
I HOPE YOU'LL
FIND EVERYTHING SHIP-
SHAPE. LET ME KNOW IF
THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE
YOU THINK YOU'LL
NEED.

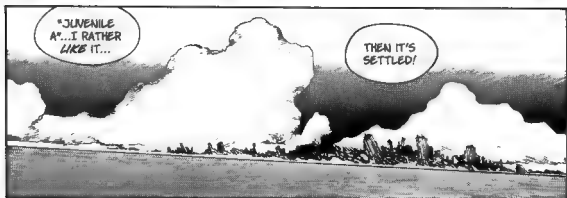
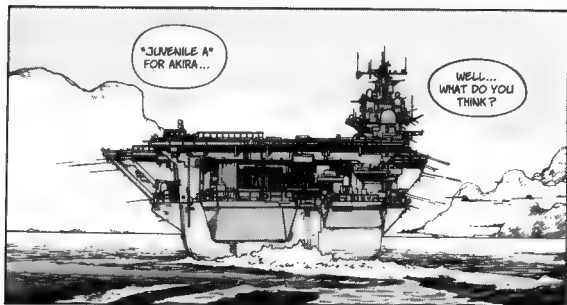


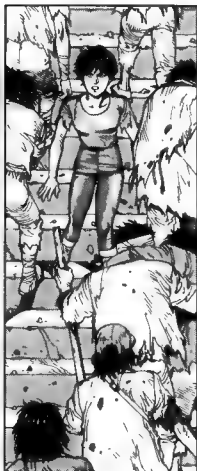


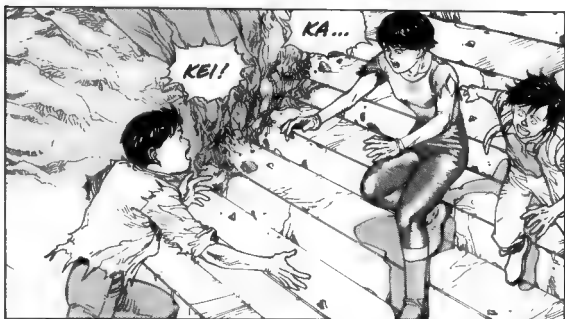
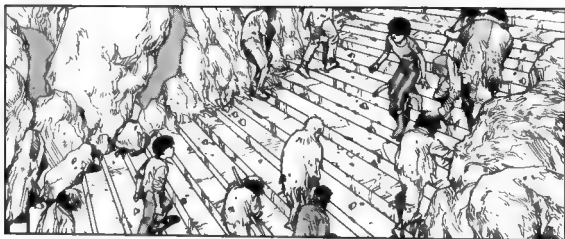


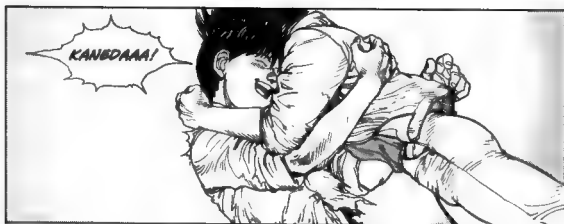


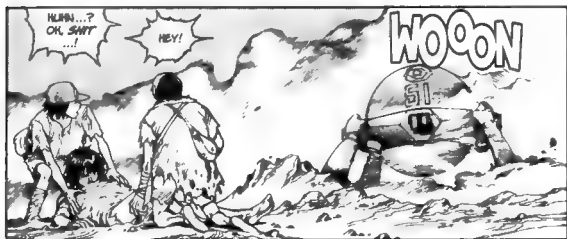


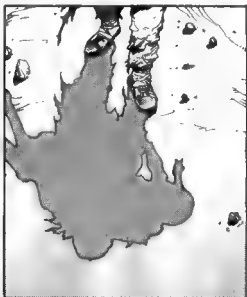










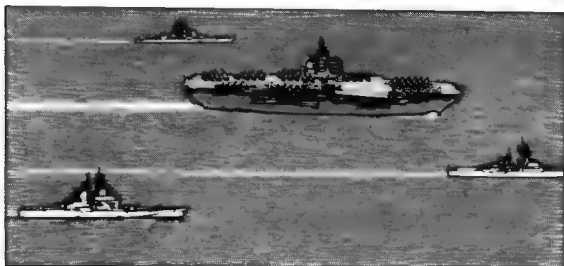
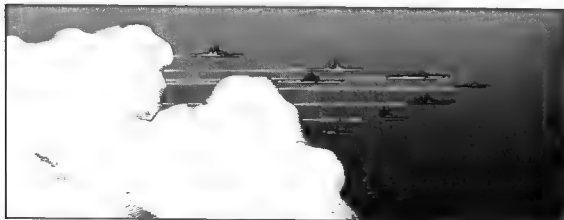
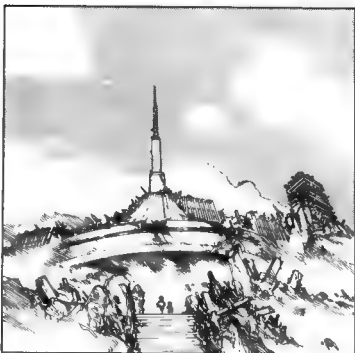


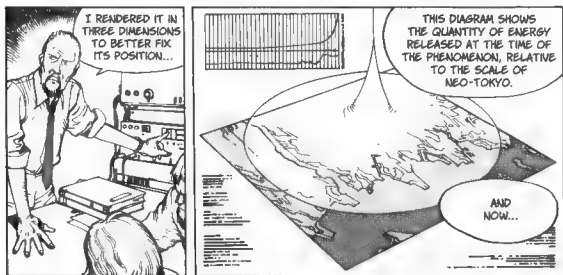
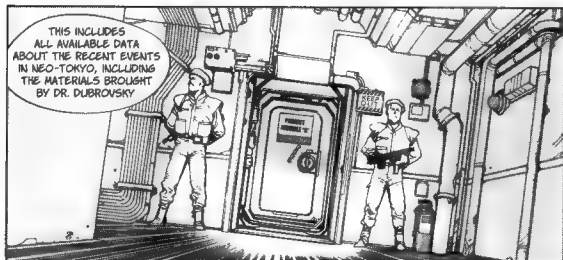


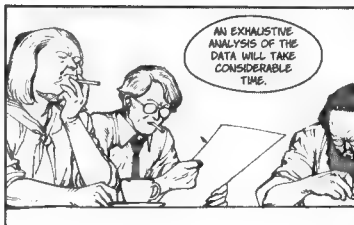
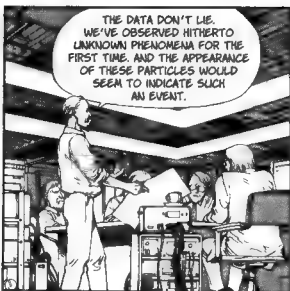
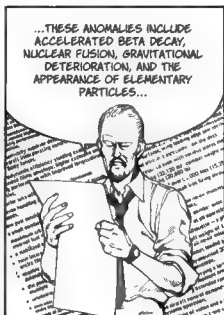


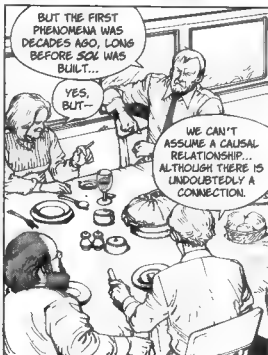
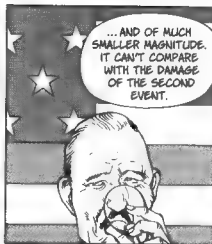
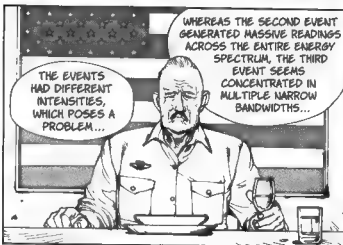
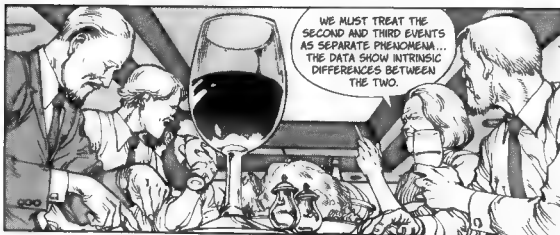


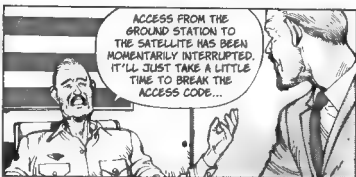
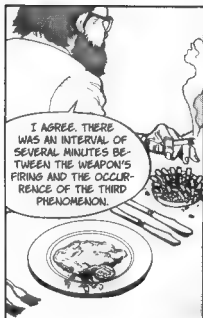


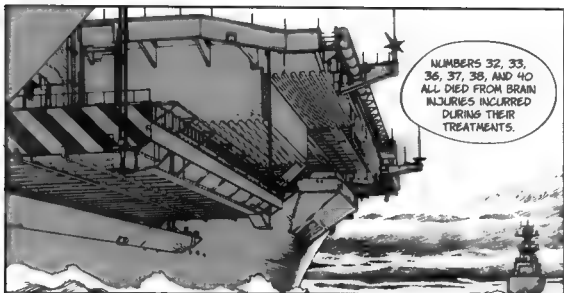




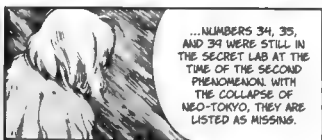








NUMBERS 32, 33,
36, 37, 38, AND 40
ALL DIED FROM BRAIN
INJURIES INCURRED
DURING THEIR
TREATMENTS.



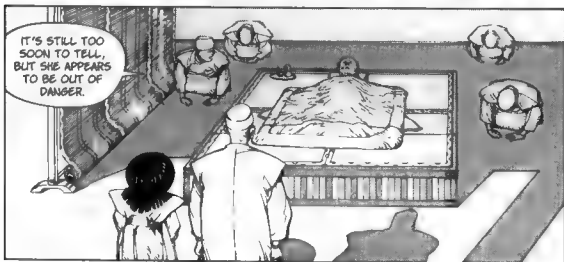
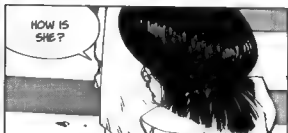
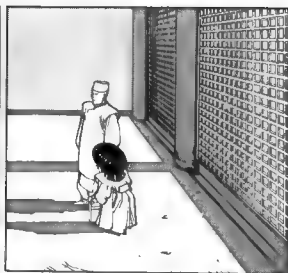
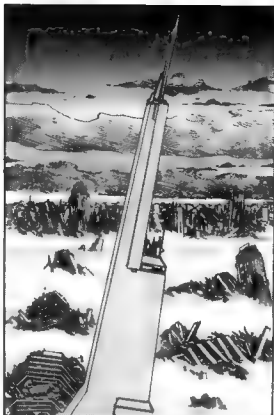
...NUMBERS 34, 35,
AND 39 WERE STILL IN
THE SECRET LAB AT THE
TIME OF THE SECOND
PHENOMENON. WITH
THE COLLAPSE OF
NEO-TOKYO, THEY ARE
LISTED AS MISSING.



NUMBER
41 IS REPORTED
TO HAVE ESCAPED
ON APRIL 16,
2030...

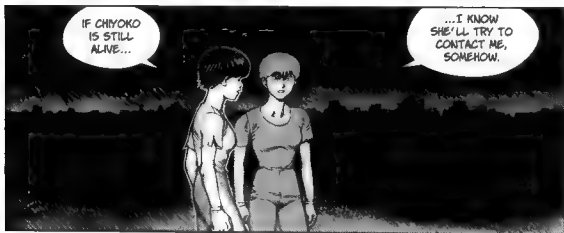
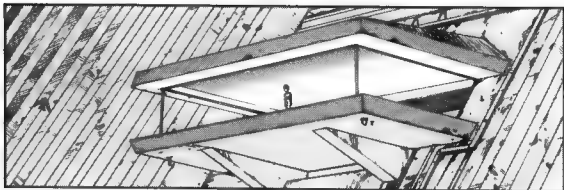


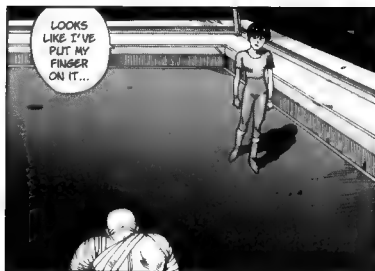
...THE SAME DAY THE
SOL LASER CANNON WAS
FIRED AT THE COMPLEX
WHERE AKIRA WAS
BEING HELD.

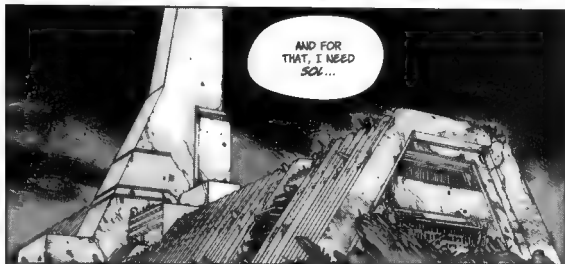
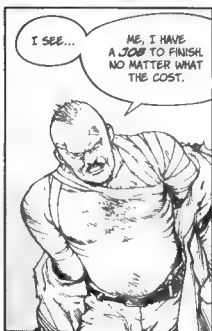




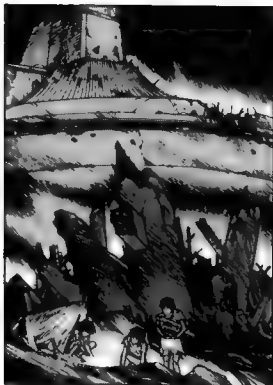












...THEN THEY
SET UP THE
GREAT TOKYO
EMPIRE

HE STRUTS
AROUND LIKE
HE'S THE
EMPEROR!!



WHAT HAPPENED
TO THE KID--
AKIRA?



NOW THAT YOU
MENTION IT...HE'S
THE ONE SUP-
POSEDLY IN
CHARGE...

...BUT NO
ONE KNOWS
MUCH ABOUT
HIM



THOSE
EMPIRE GUYS
WORSHIP HIM...
CALL HIM
"LORD"...

ME, I THINK HE'S
JUST A FIGUREHEAD.
HE APPEARS TO RUN
HIS EMPIRE WITHOUT
SAYING A WORD...



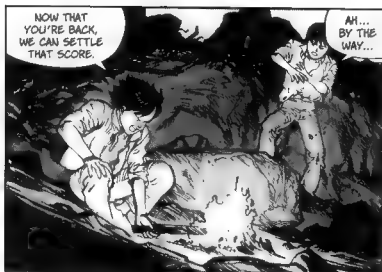
...BUT
ALL THE
TIME...

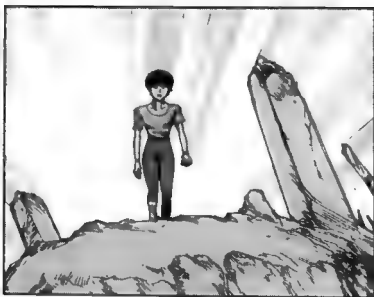
...IT'S
TETSUO
GIVING THE
ORDERS



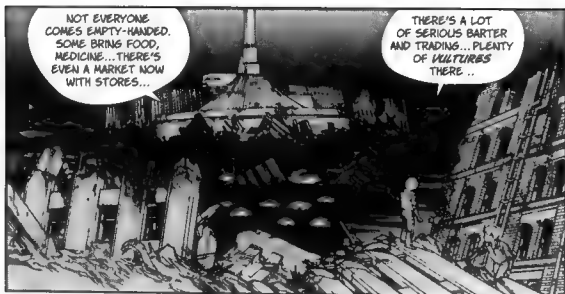
SHIT...
TO THINK HE
SURVIVED ALL
THAT

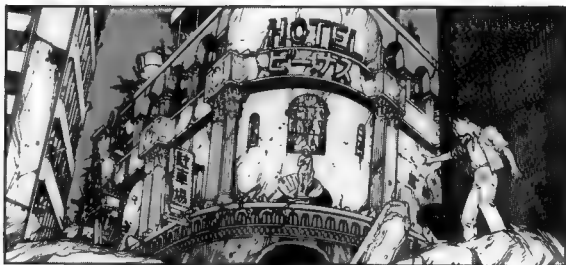
REALLY TEARING
THE PLACE UP, AREN'T
YOU, TETSUO? FOR A
FLICKER WHO SHOULD
BE DEAD BY NOW...

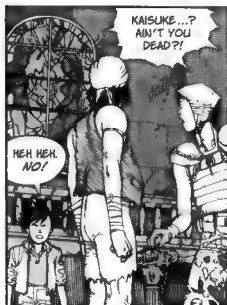
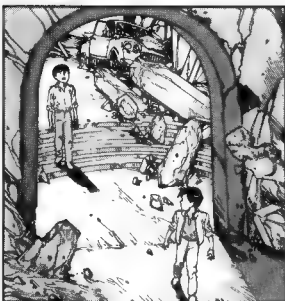


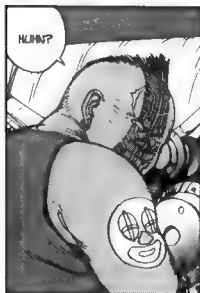




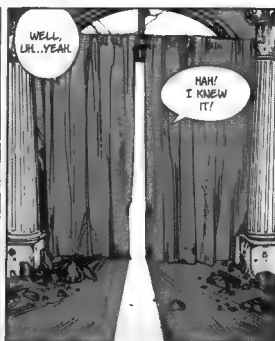


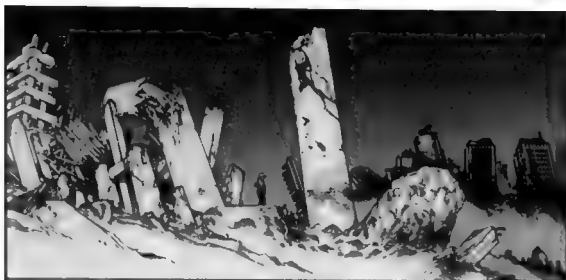
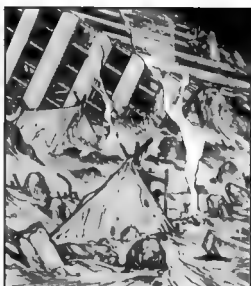
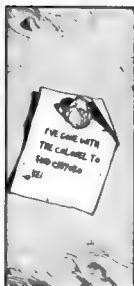
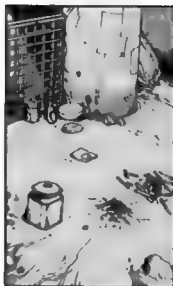


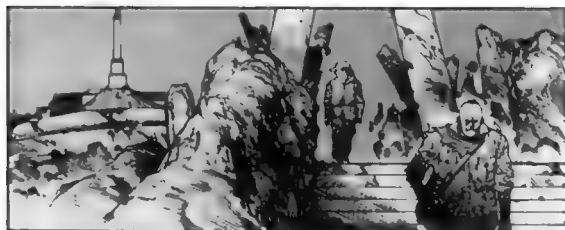
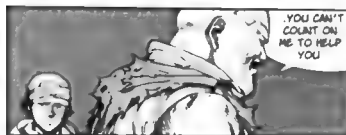
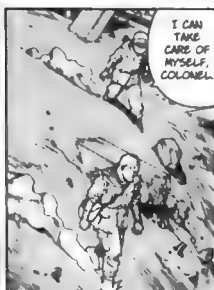


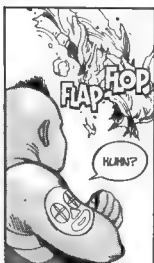


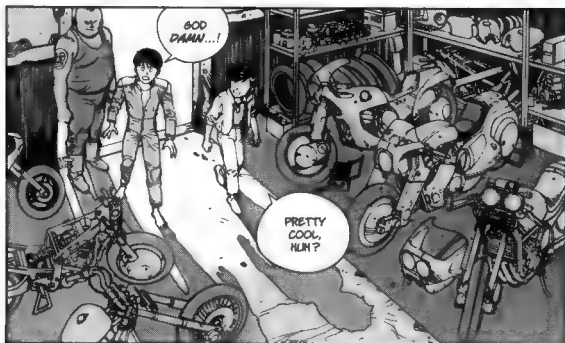


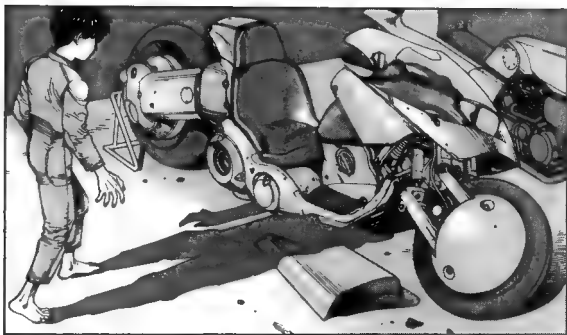


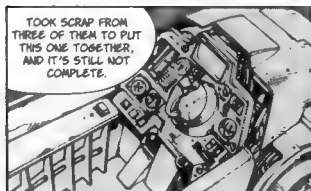
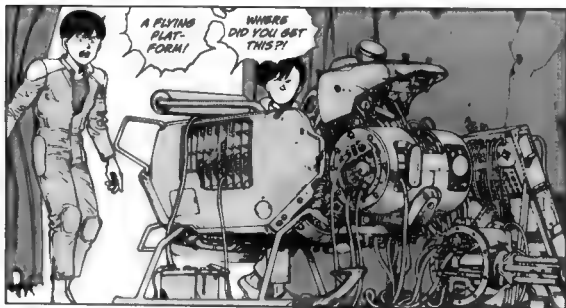


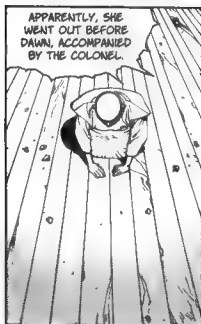
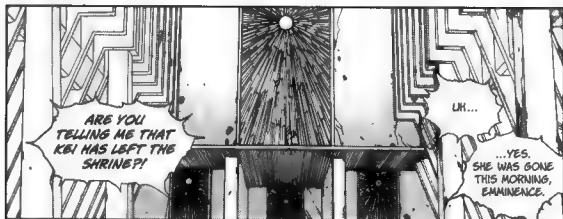






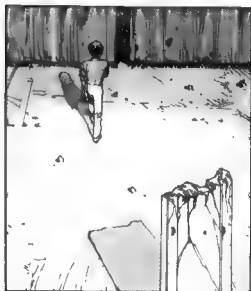
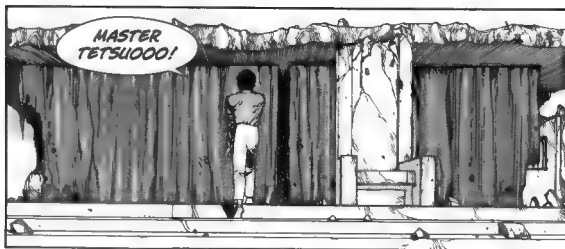




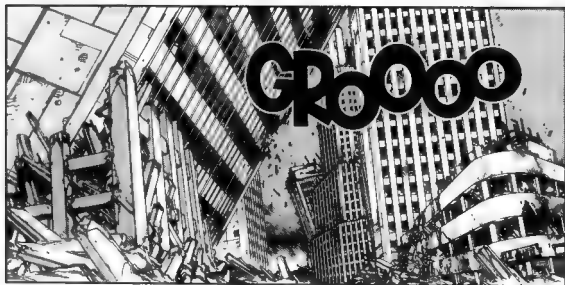


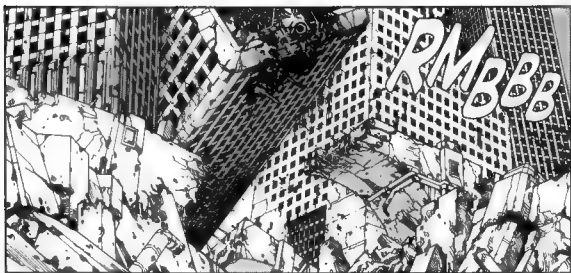
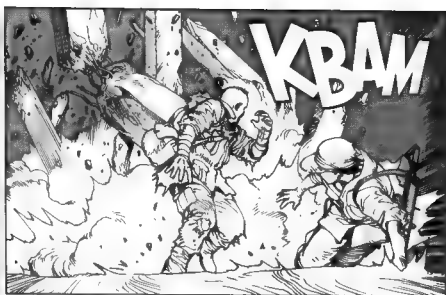






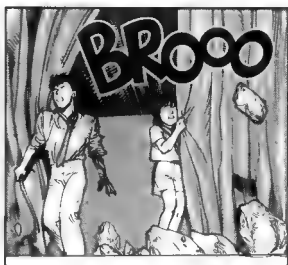
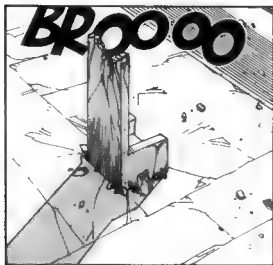


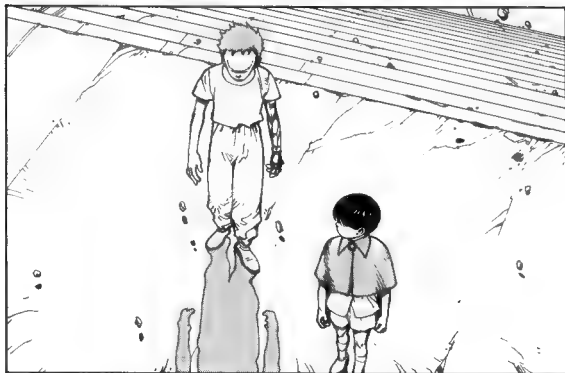






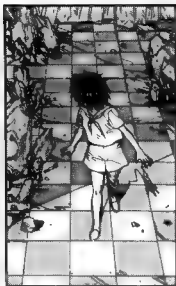
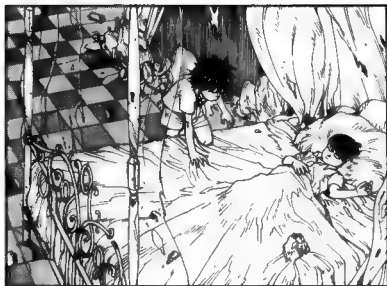


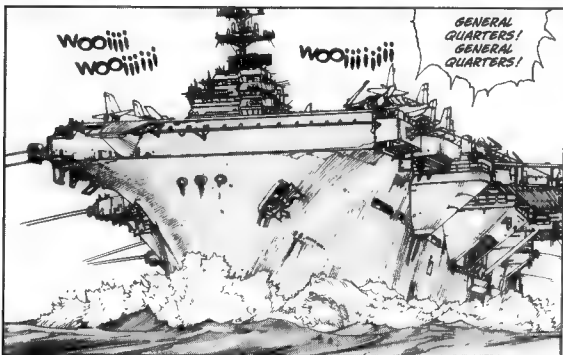
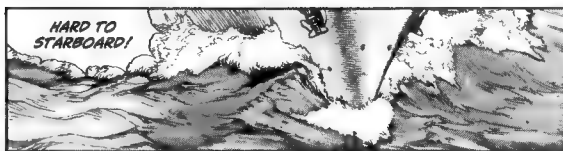


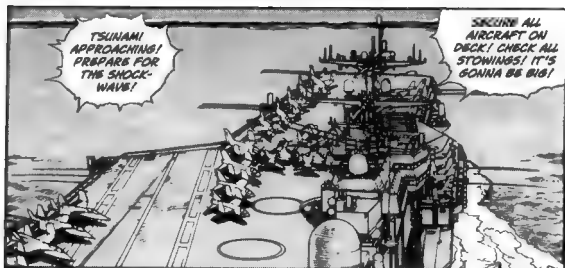




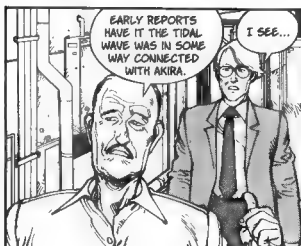
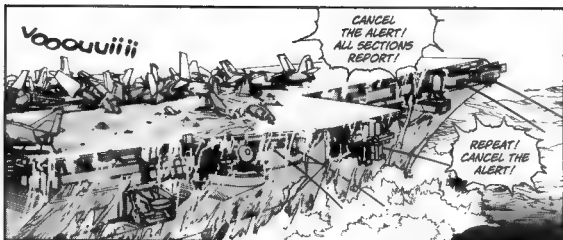


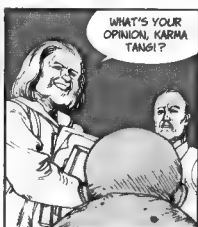
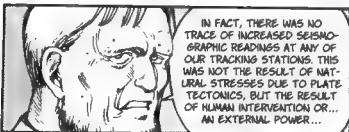
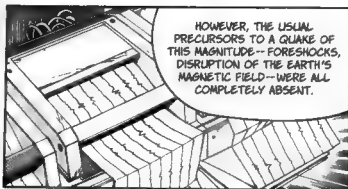




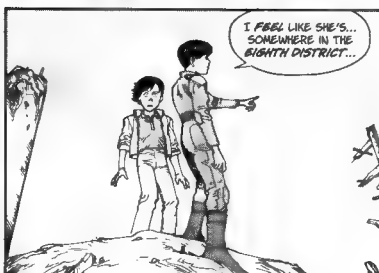














THEY ARE PASSING
OUT OF THE EIGHTH
DISTRICT AND ARE
ABOUT TO INVADE
OUR TERRITORY!

TAKE UP ARMS, MY
BROTHERS! WITH ALL THE
POWER OF THE GREAT
TOKYO EMPIRE PROTECTING
US, WE HAVE NOTHING
TO FEAR!



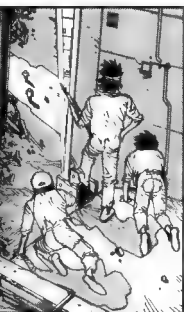
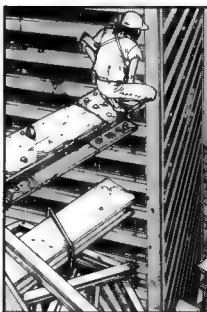
COLONEL...

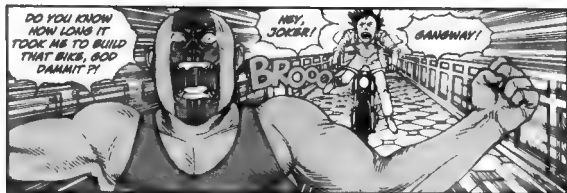


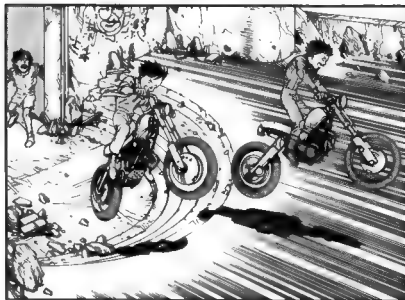
DON'T WORRY,
I'M FINE...

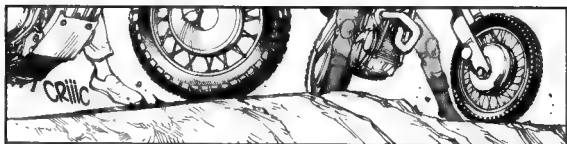


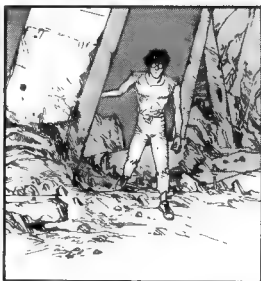
WE'RE
ALMOST
THERE...

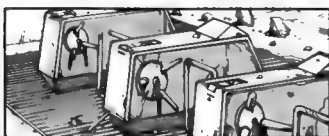


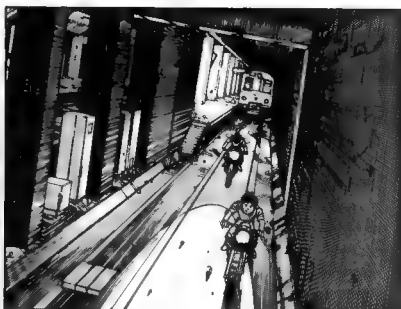
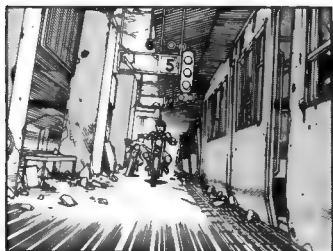
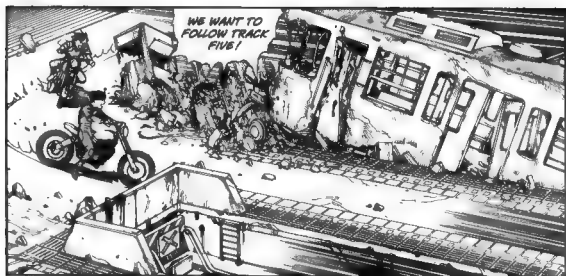




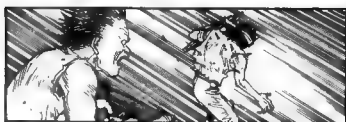


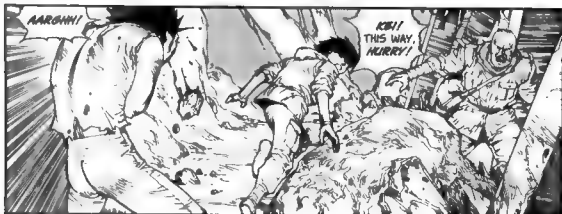


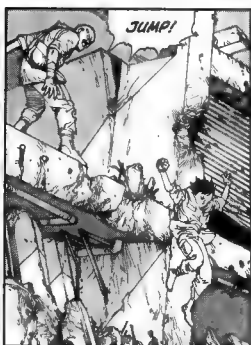


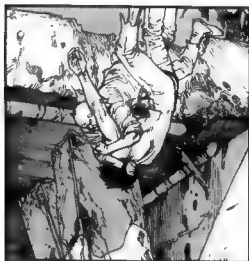


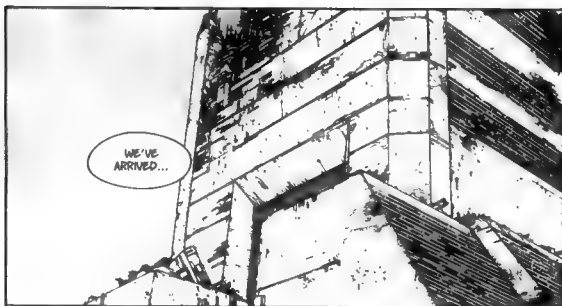




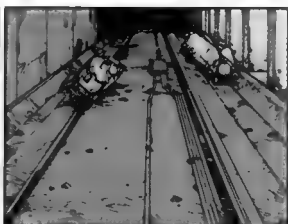
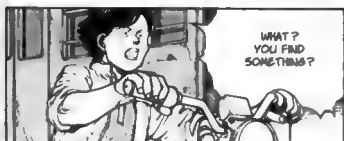




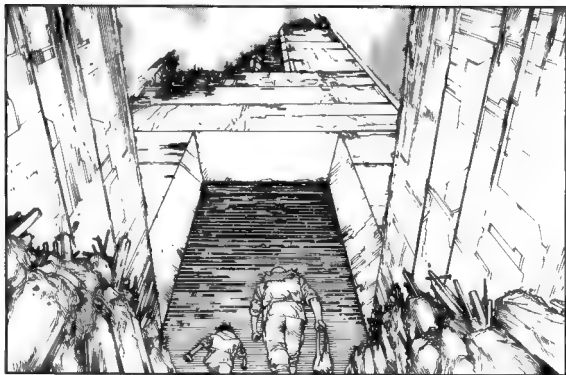
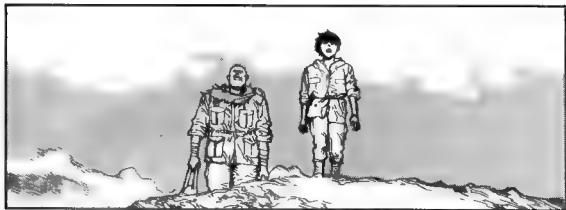


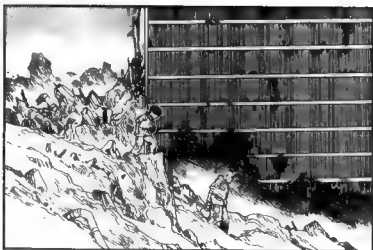




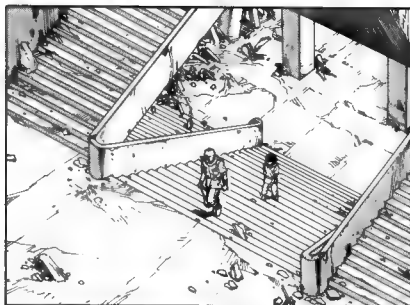


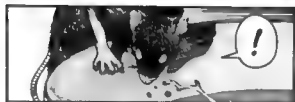


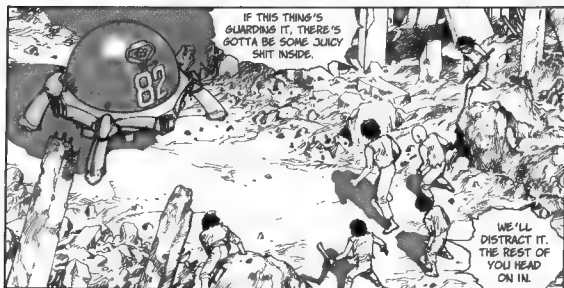


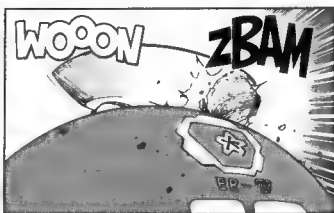






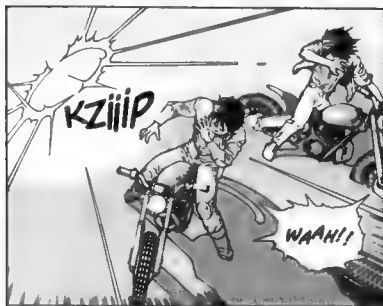
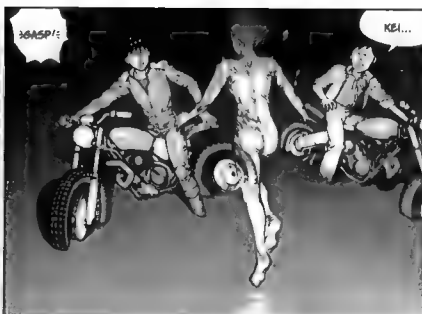




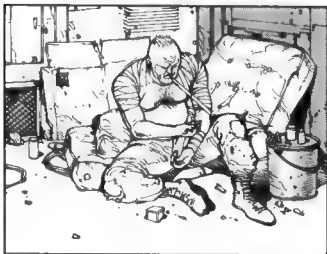


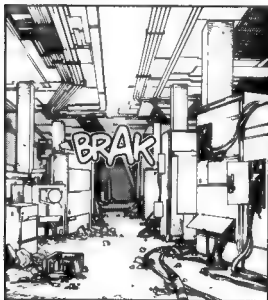


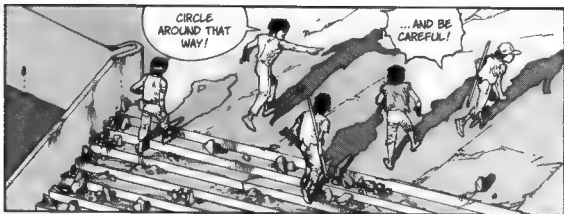


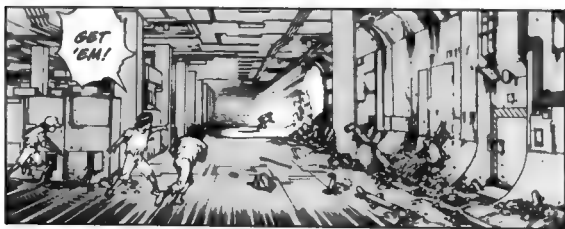






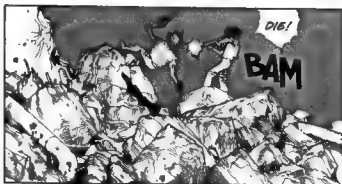


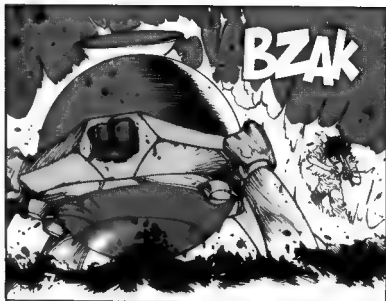


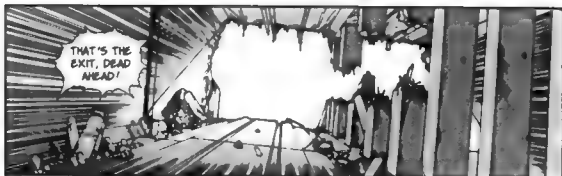




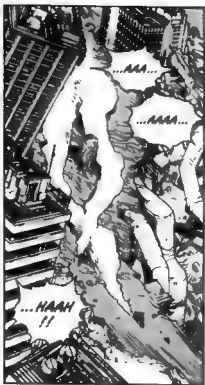
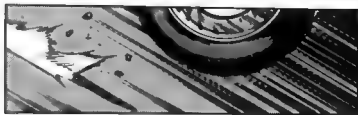
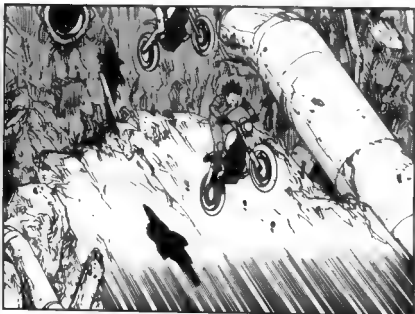


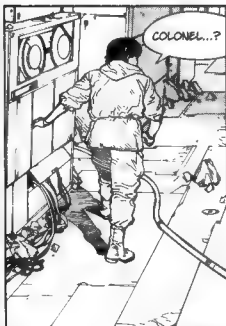


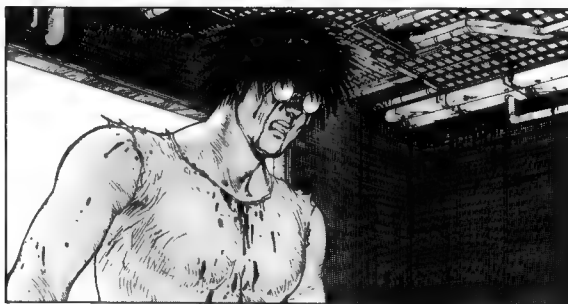
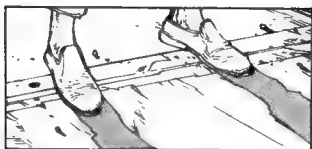
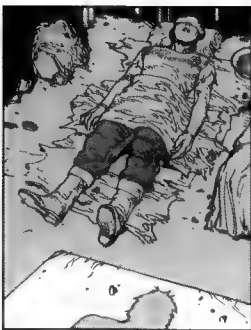




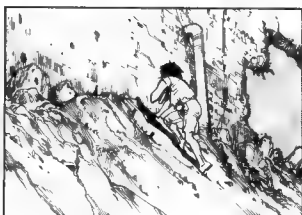




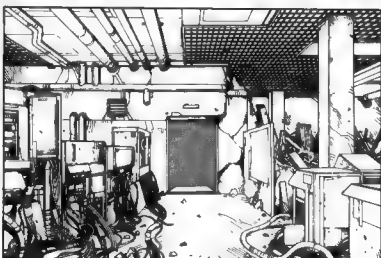


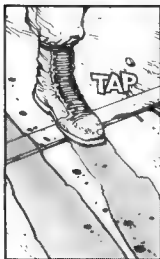


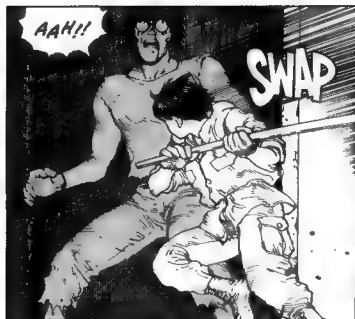






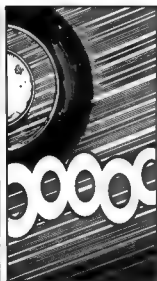
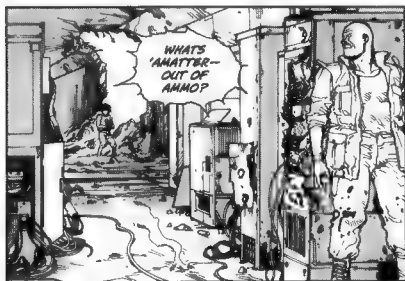


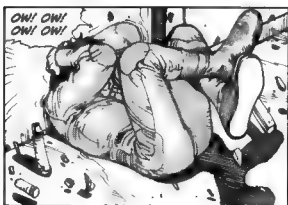


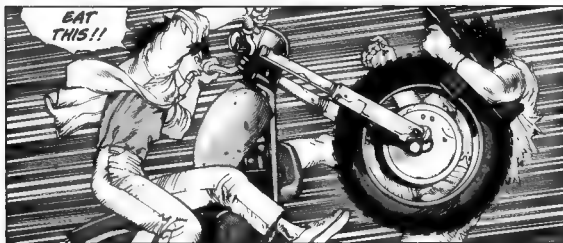


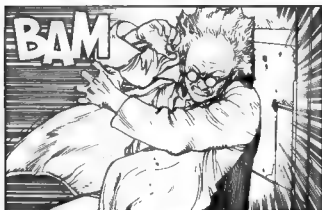


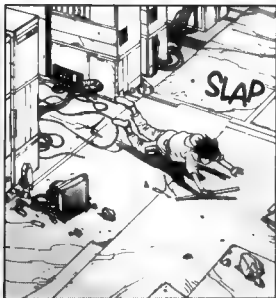










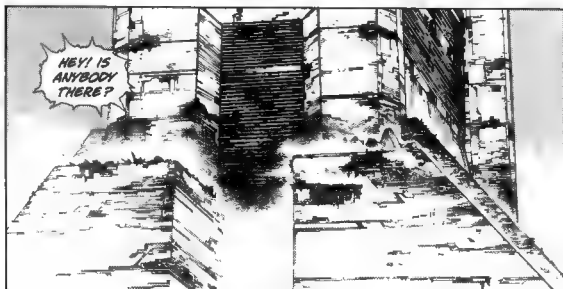
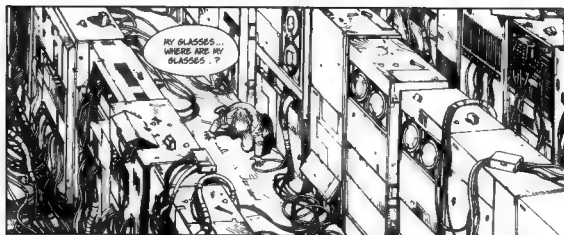


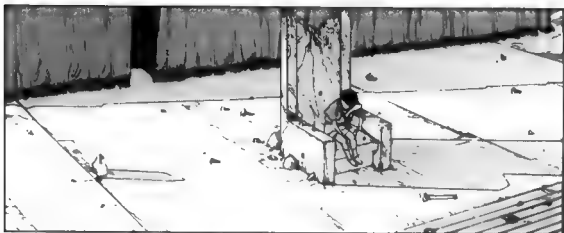
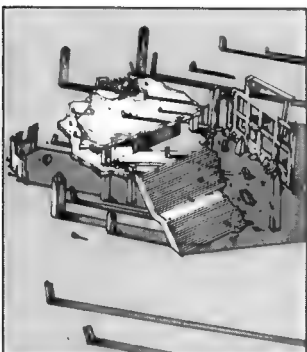


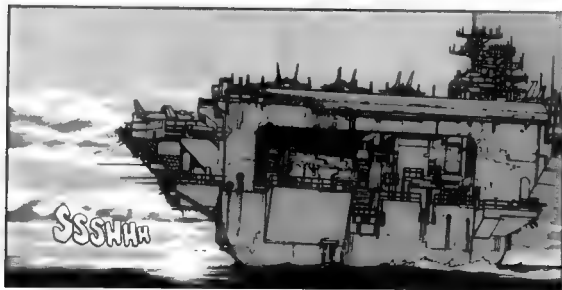
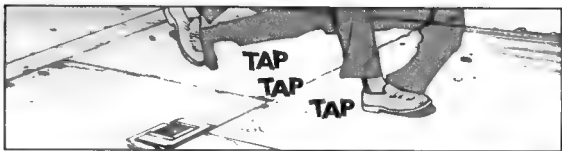
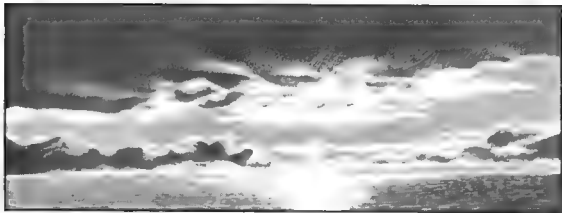




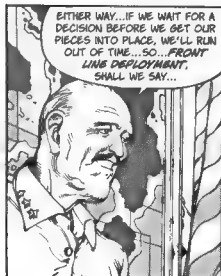
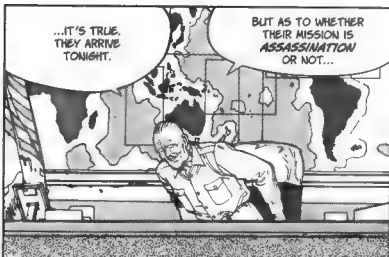






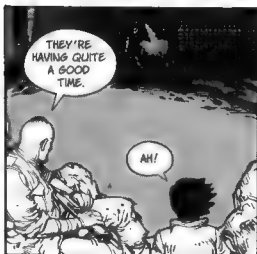




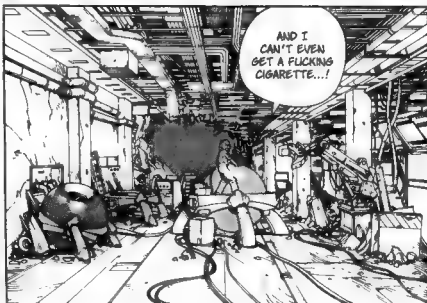


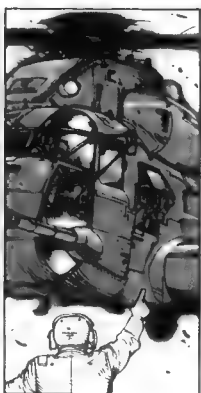
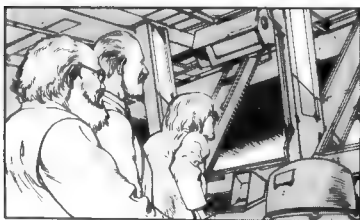
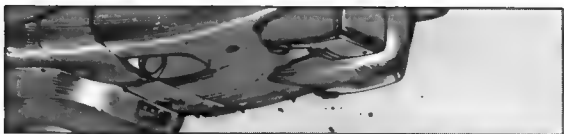


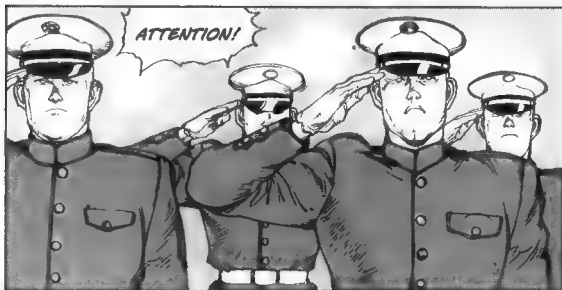
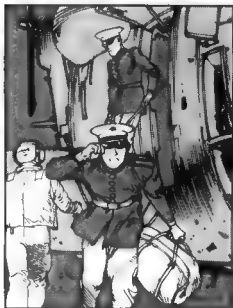
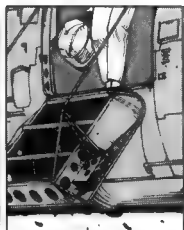


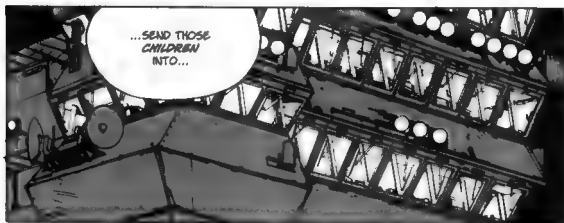


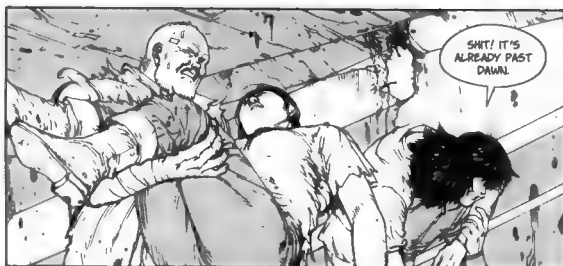


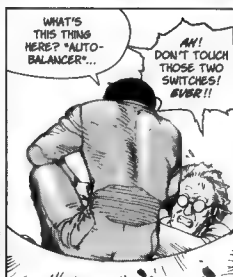
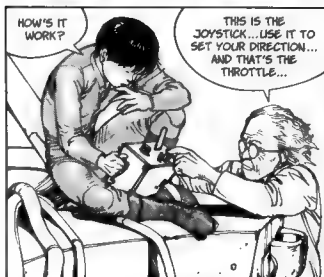
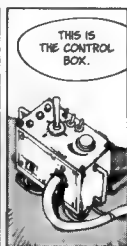




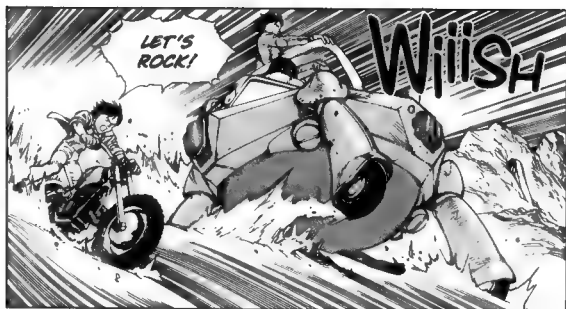


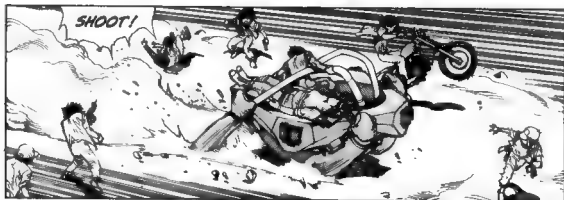


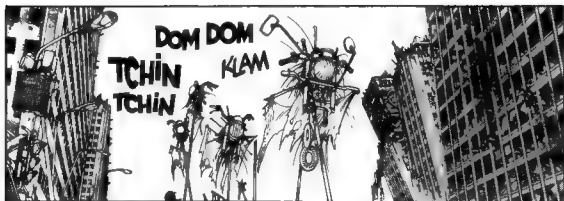


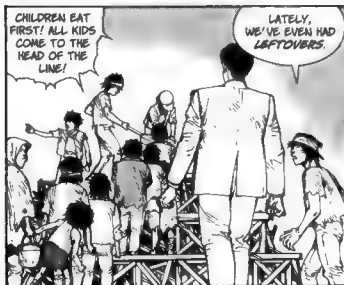






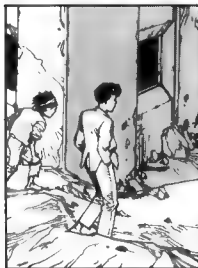


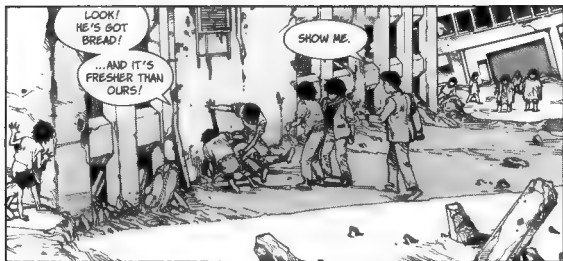


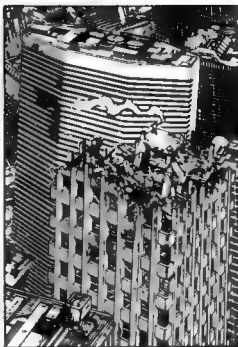


LATELY, WE'VE EVEN HAD LEFTOVERS.

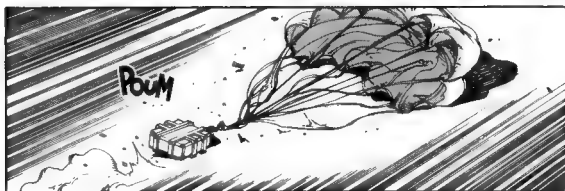
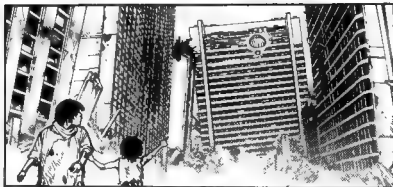
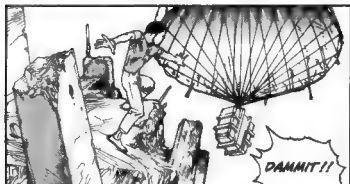


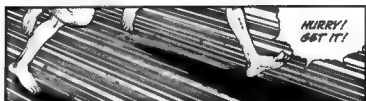


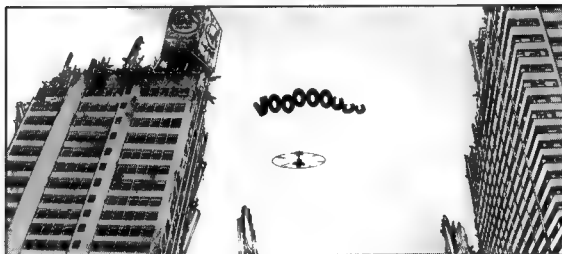
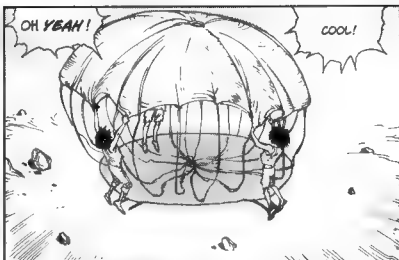


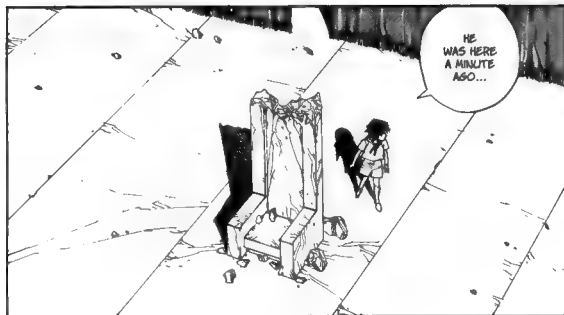
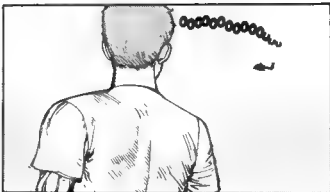
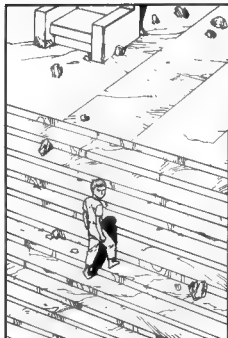


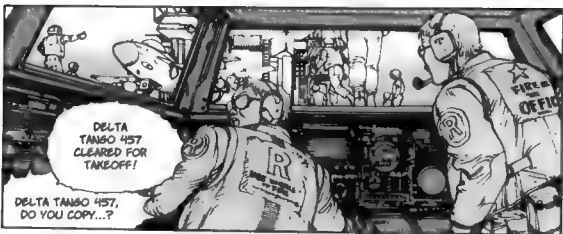
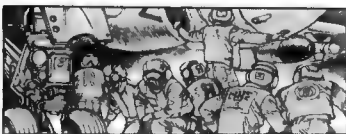
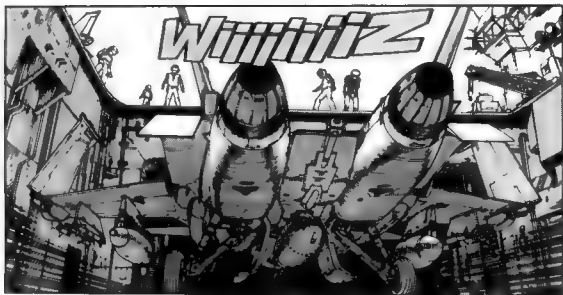


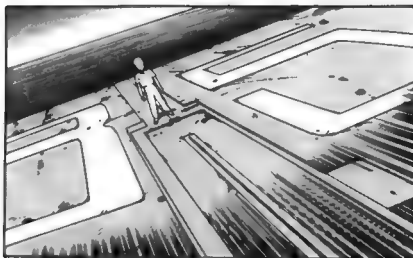
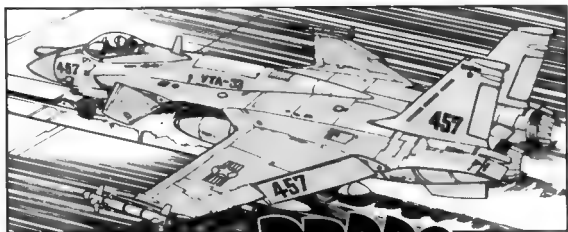
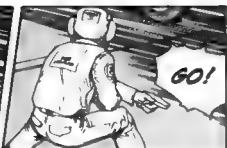


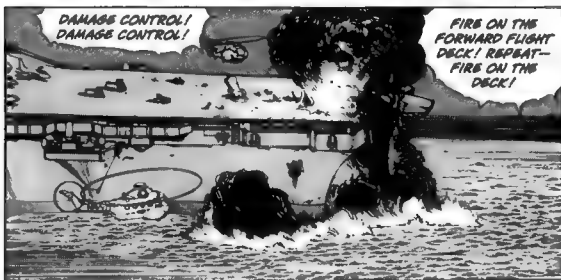
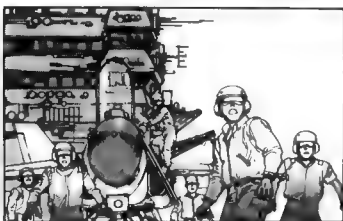
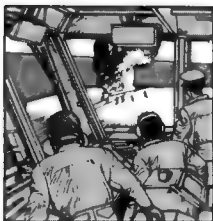








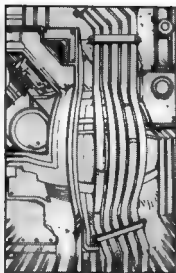


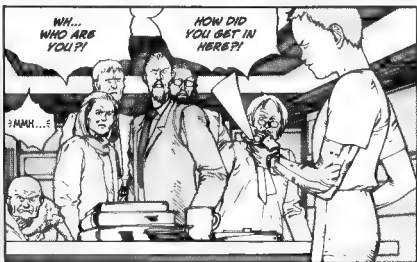
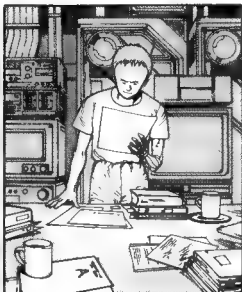


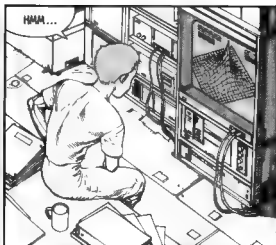
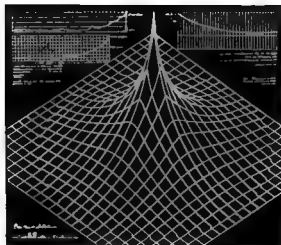
DAMAGE CONTROL!
DAMAGE CONTROL!

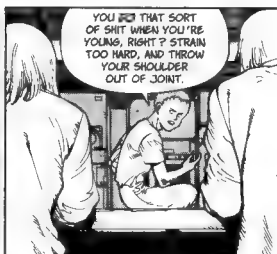
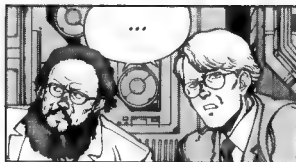
FIRE ON THE
FORWARD FLIGHT
DECK! REPEAT—
FIRE ON THE
DECK!

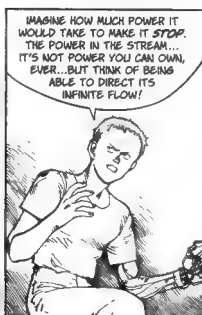






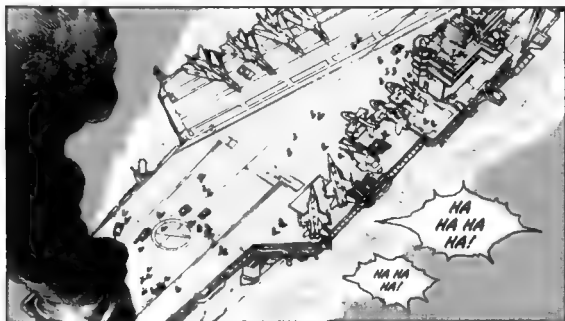
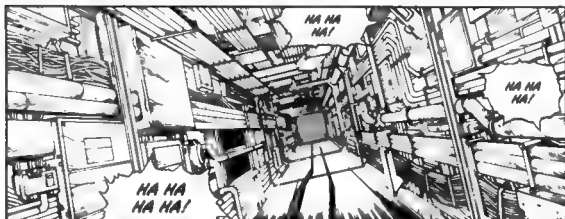
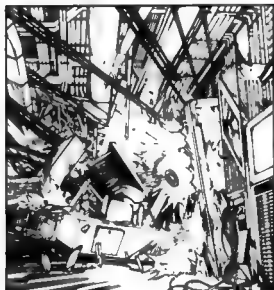


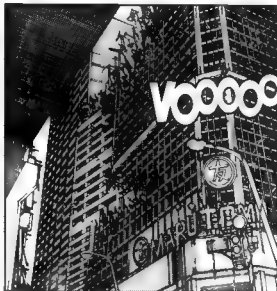
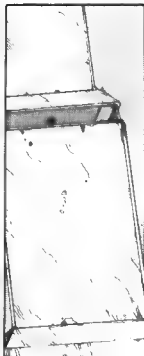
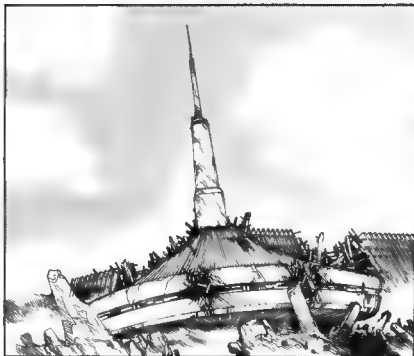


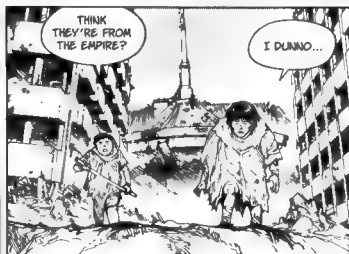
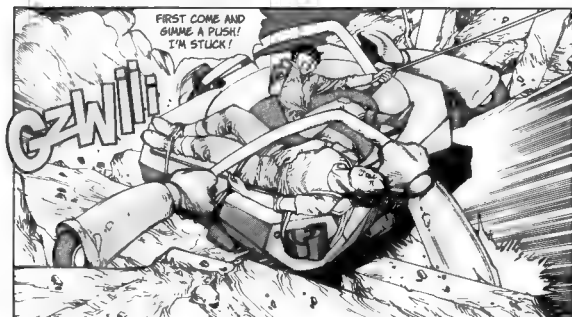


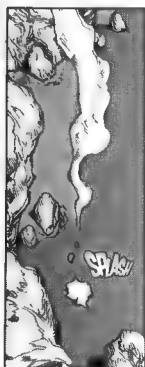
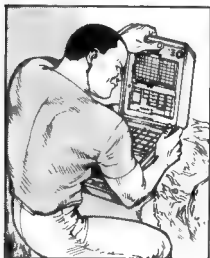


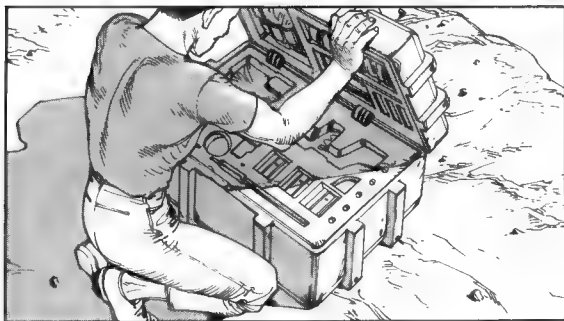


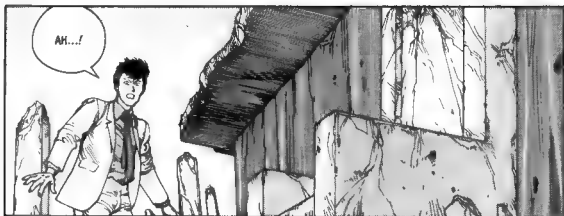


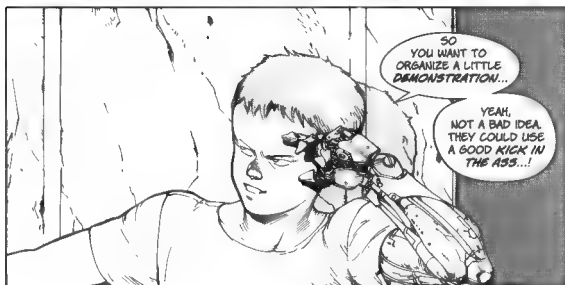
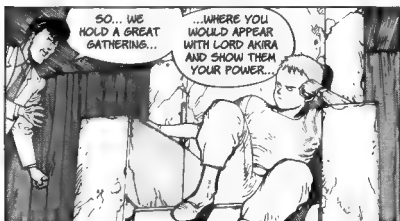


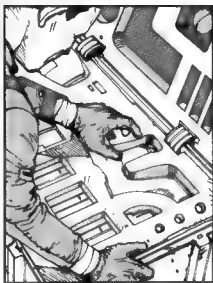
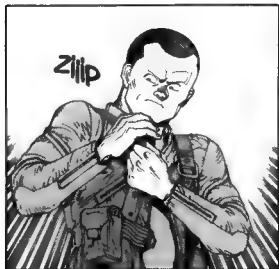










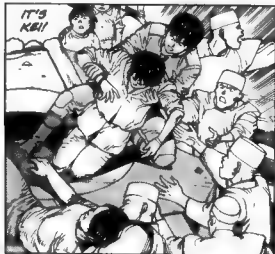
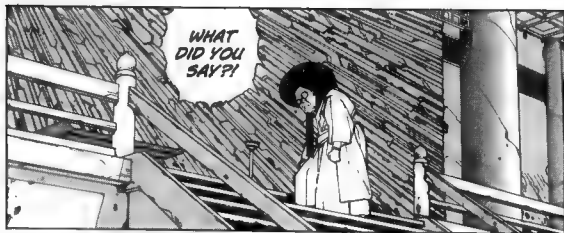


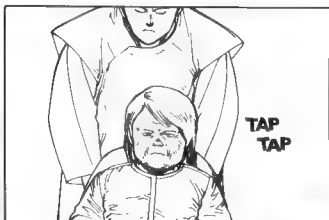
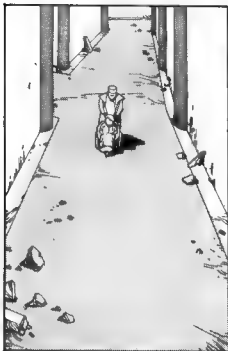




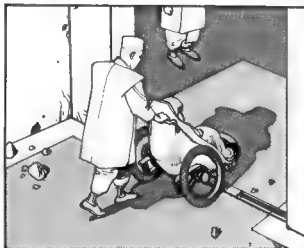
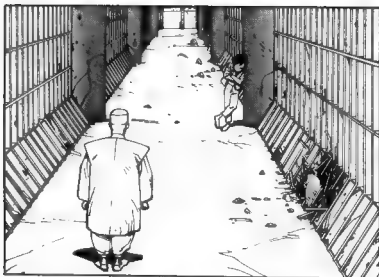


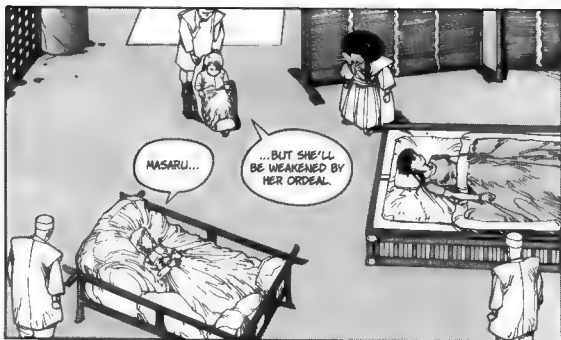


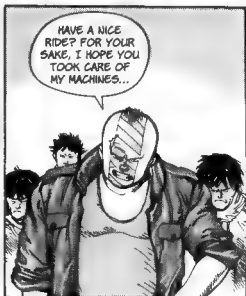
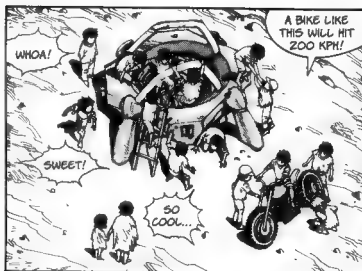


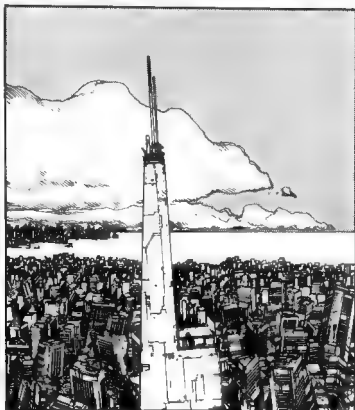
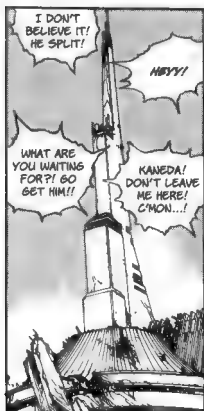


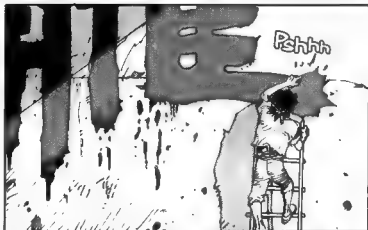








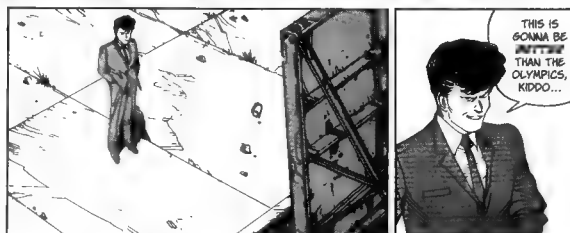
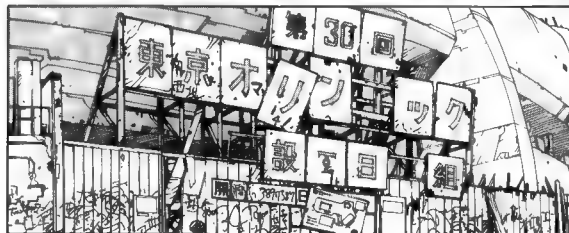
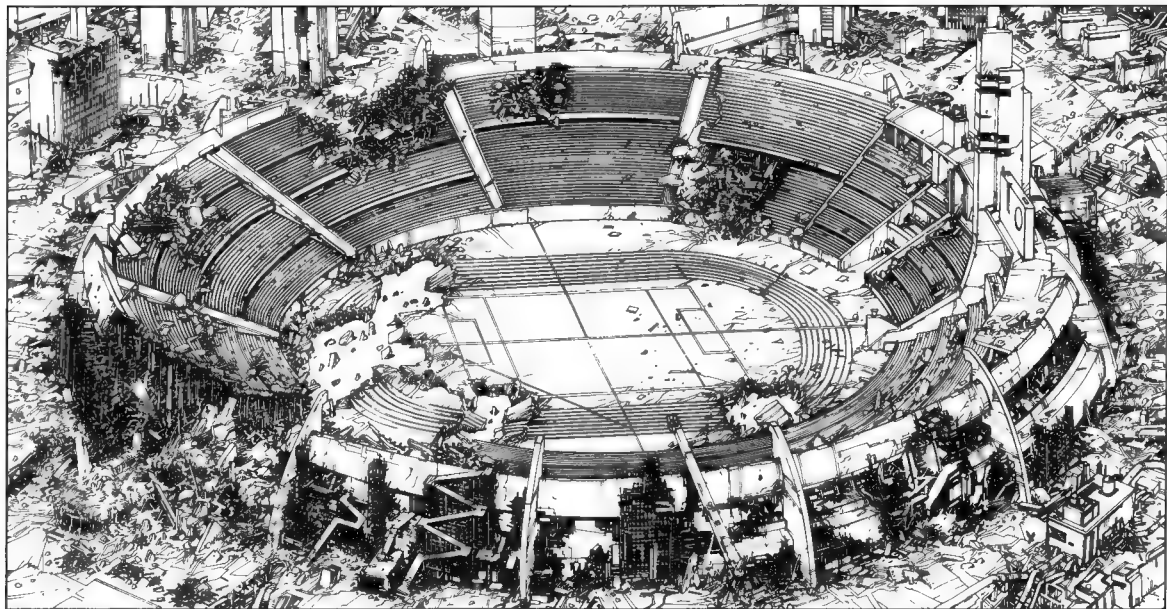


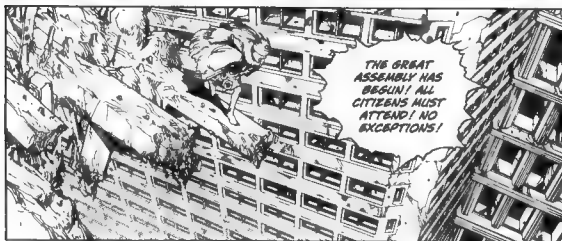


THERE!
THAT CAN'T
BE MISSED...

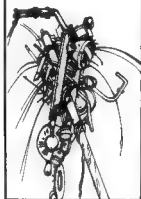








DO NOT BE MISLED
BY THE SEDUCTIVE
LIES OF MIYAKO,
SWORN ENEMY OF
OUR EMPIRE!



LET US
UNITE UNDER
THE SAME
BANNER...!

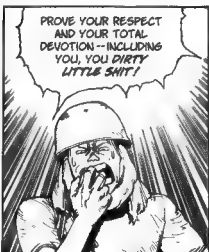


...LET US
SHOW OUR
LOYALTY TO OUR
GREAT LORD
AKIRA.

THE FIGHT
CONTINUES!
WE HAVE
NO OTHER
CHOICE!



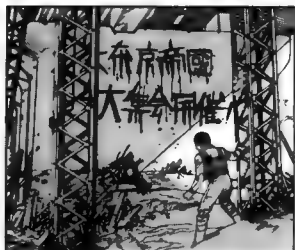
PROVE YOUR RESPECT
AND YOUR TOTAL
DEVOTION--INCLUDING
YOU, YOU DIRTY
LITTLE SHIT!

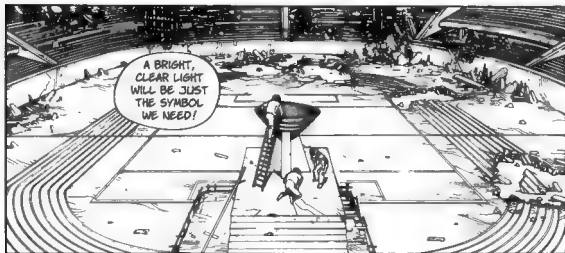
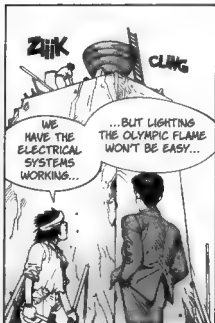


THOSE WHO
CAN WORK,
HELP WITH THE
CONSTRUCTION!

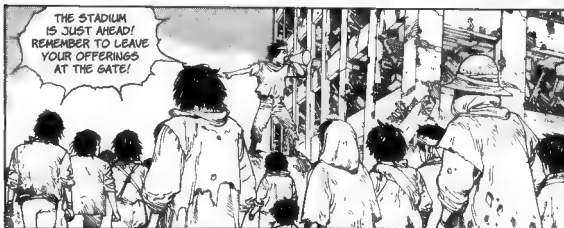
THOSE WHO
CAN SPEAK,
GO OUT AND
SPREAD THE
WORD!

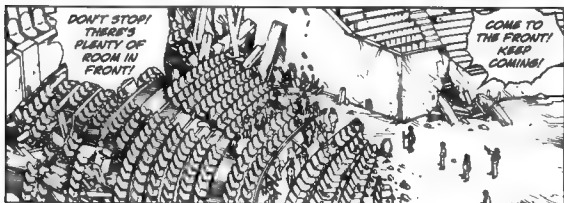
ALL MUST
PARTICIPATE!
WITH EVERYONE'S
ASSISTANCE, WE
CANNOT FAIL!

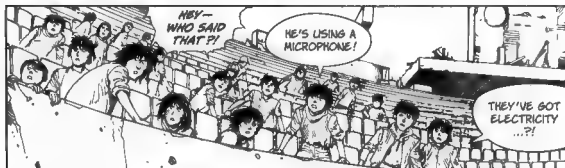
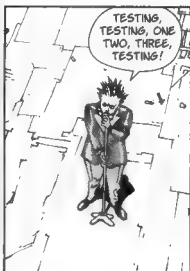




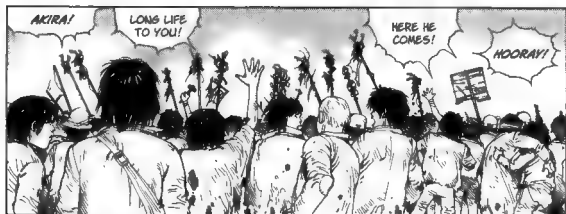


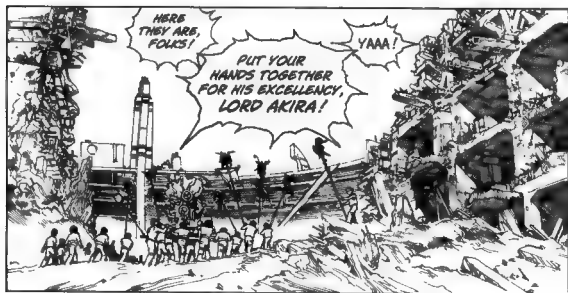


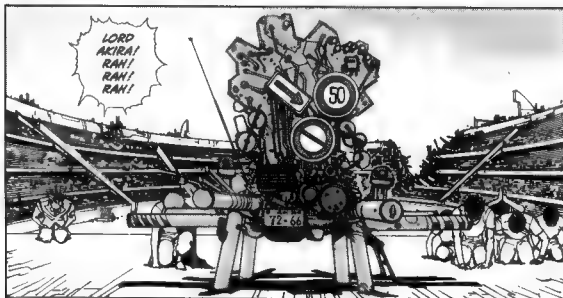




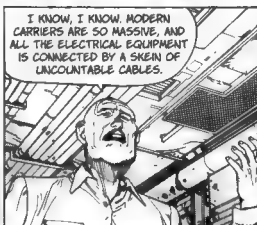
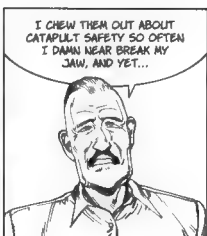


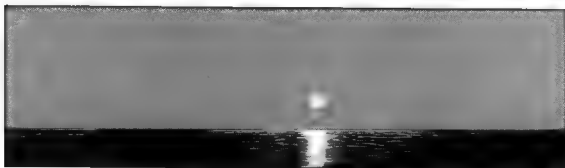
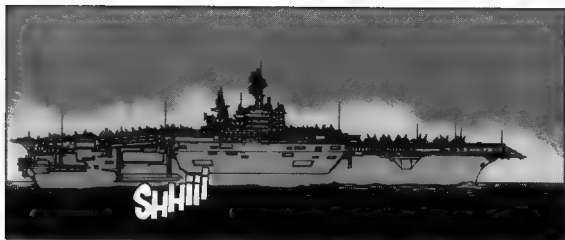








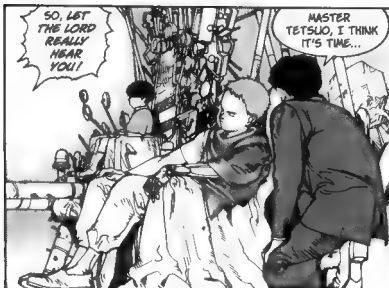
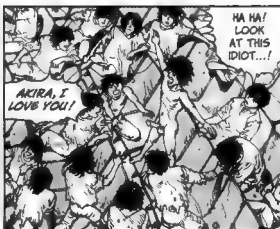






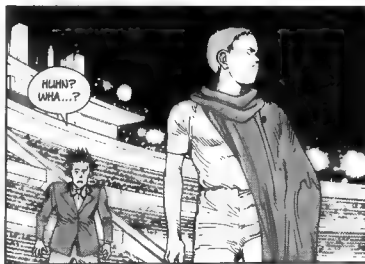
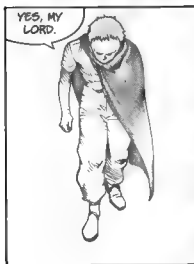
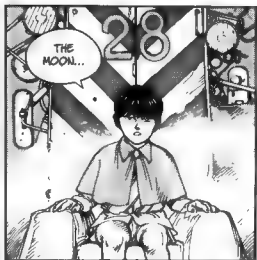
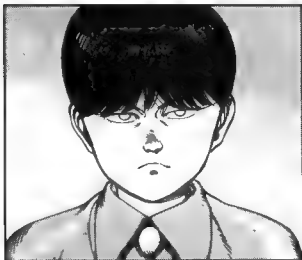


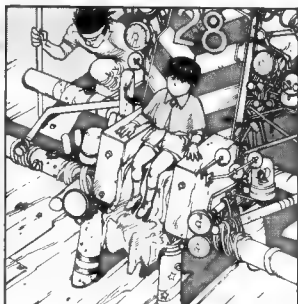
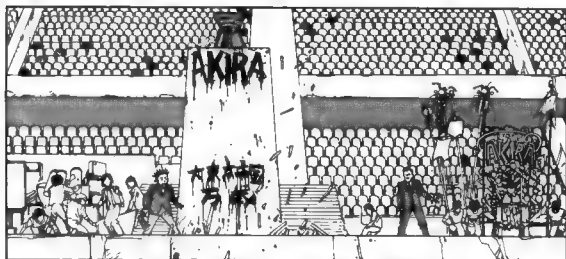
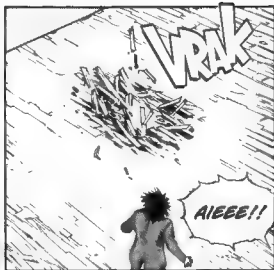


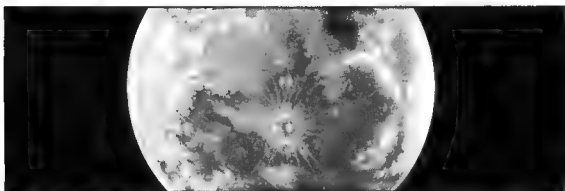
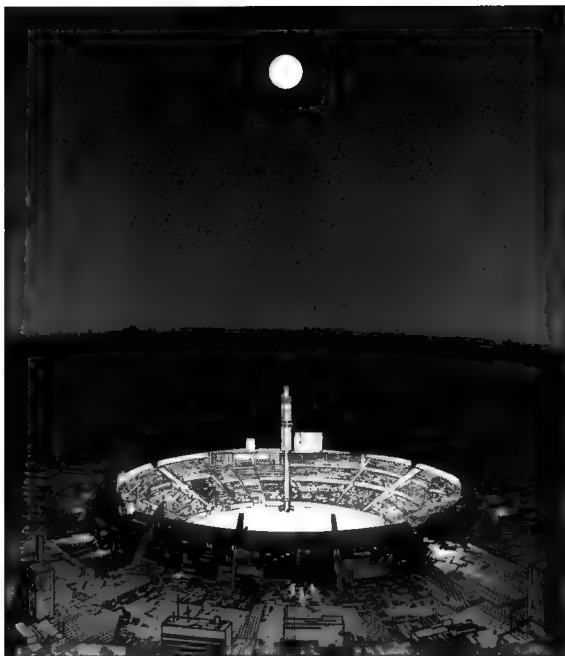


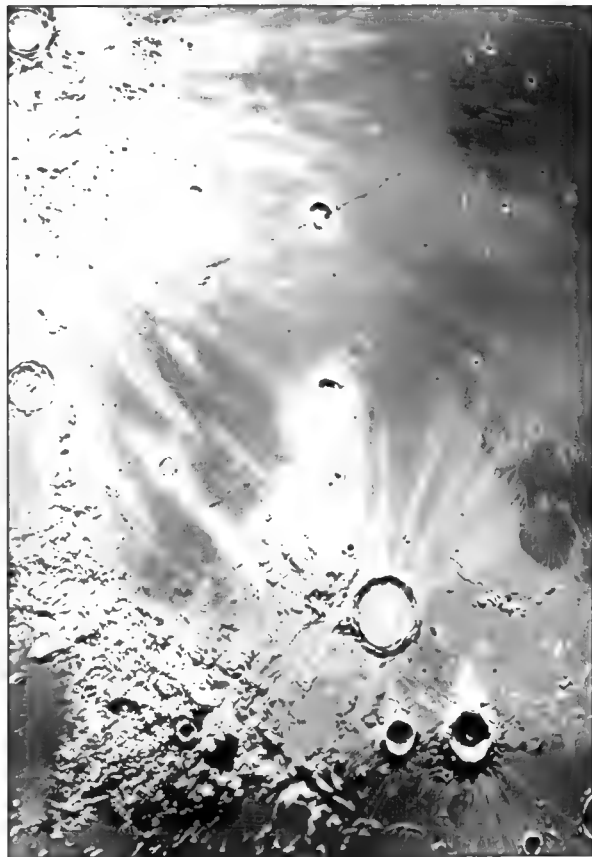


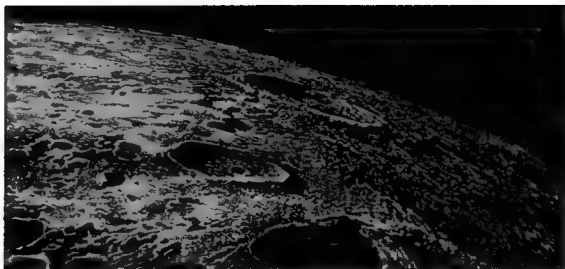


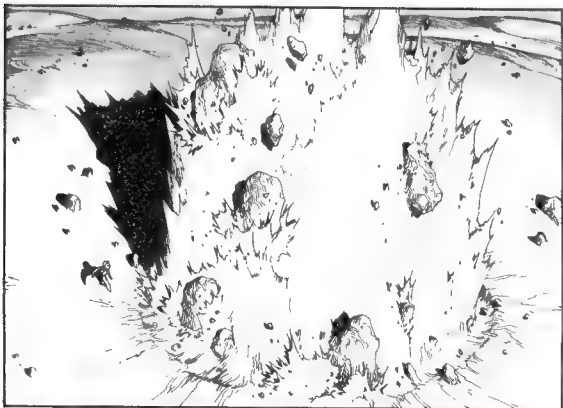


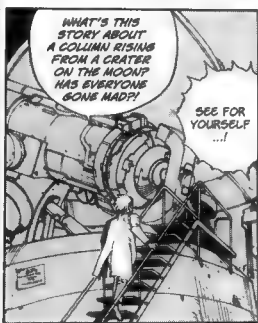
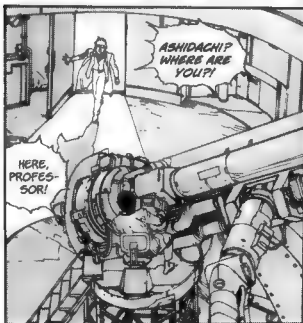


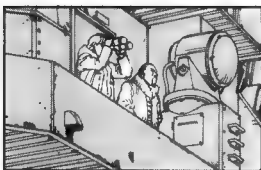
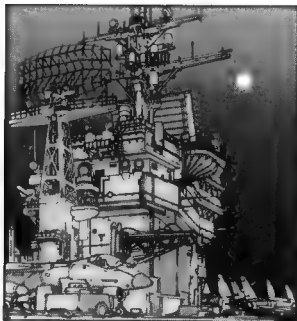


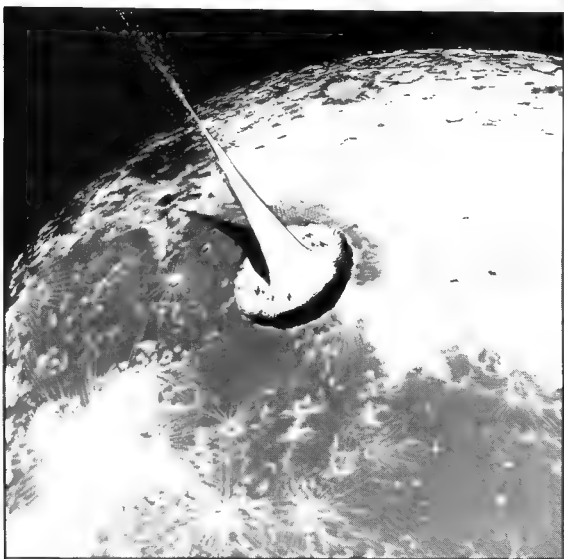
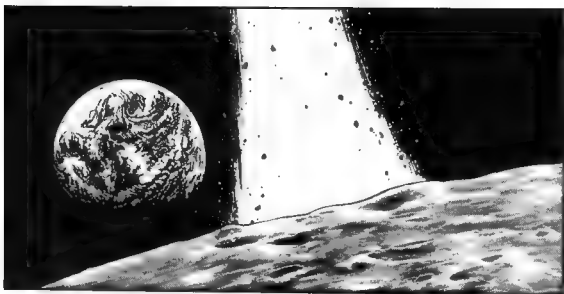




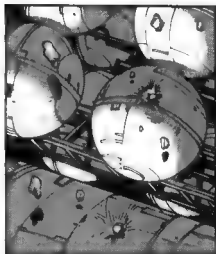
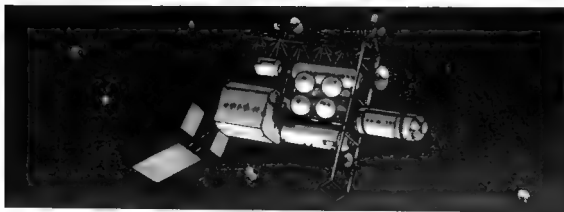
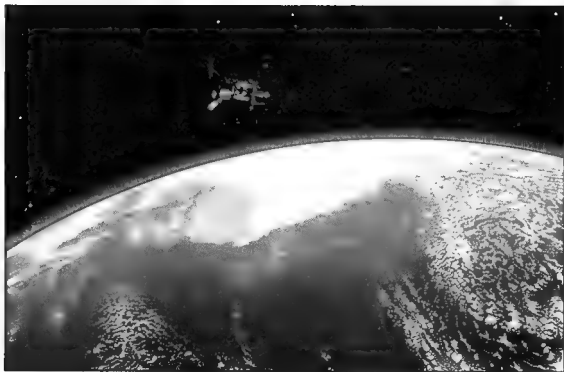


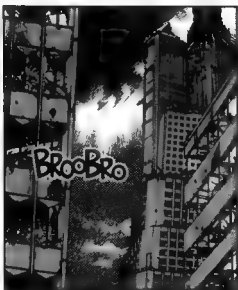


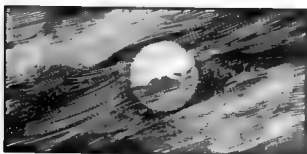


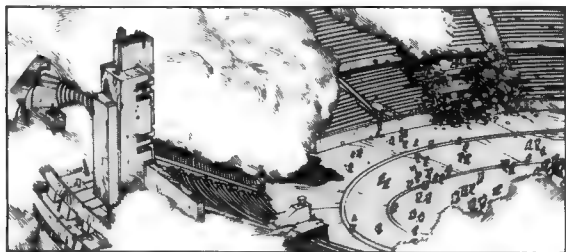
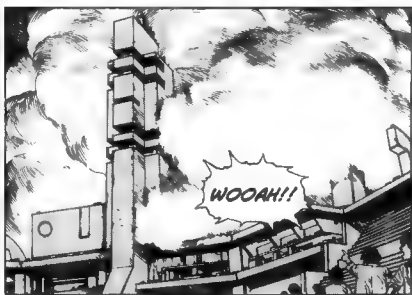


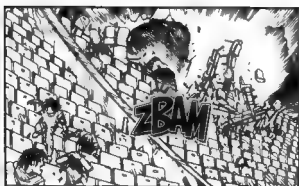






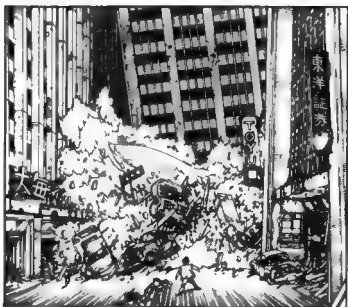
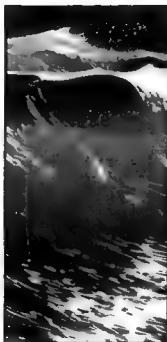


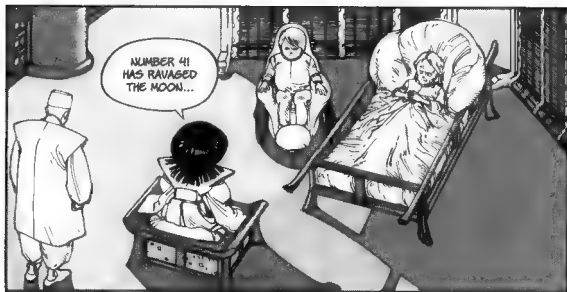


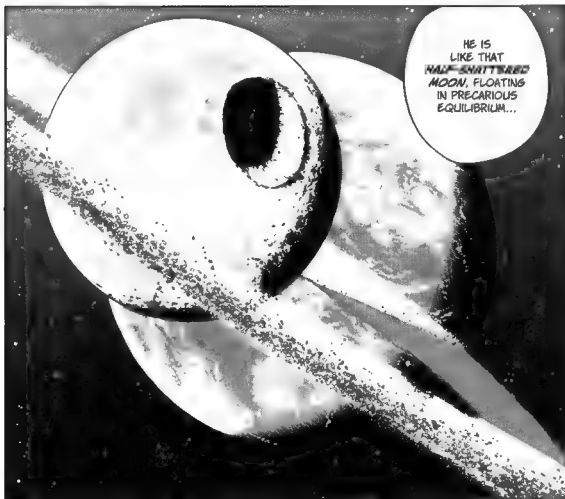
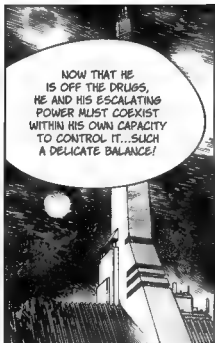


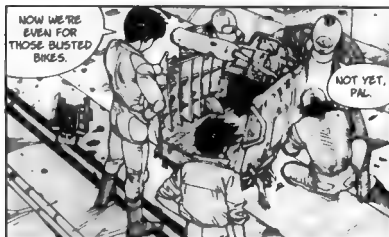


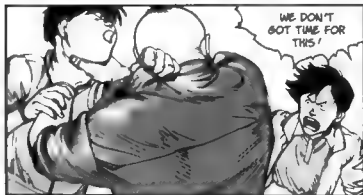
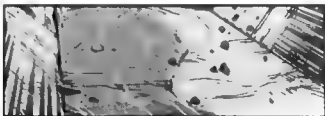
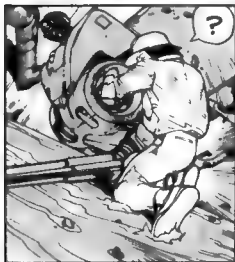




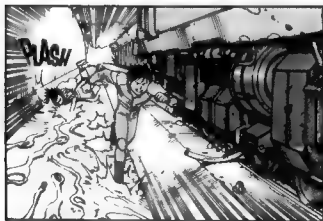
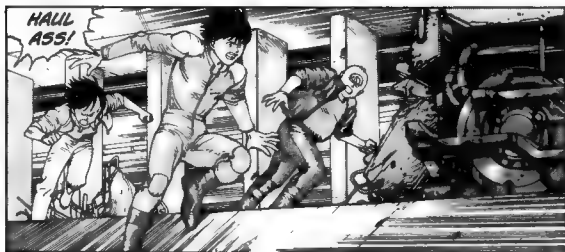


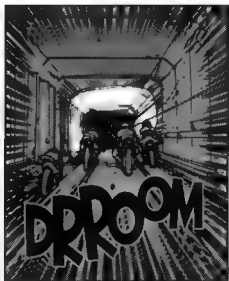


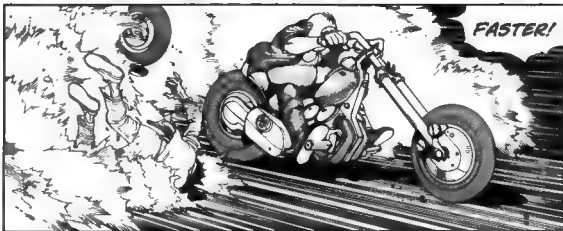


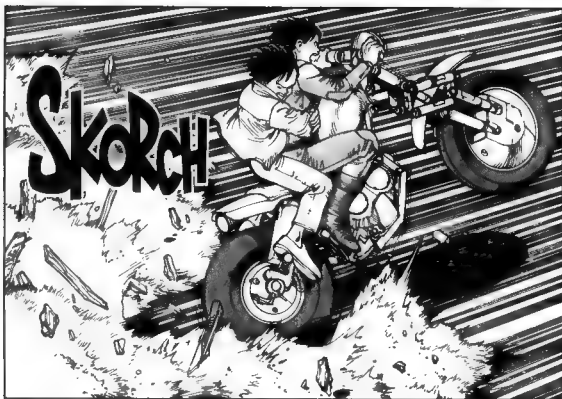


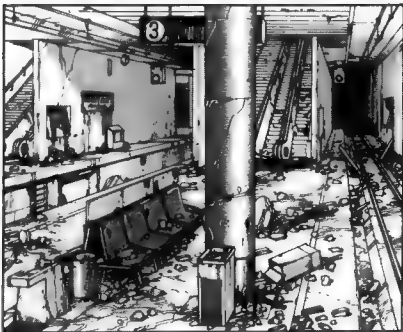
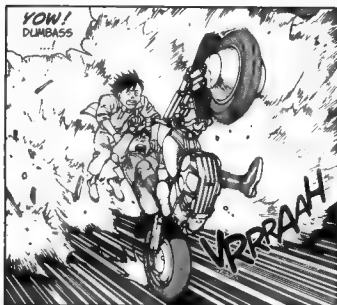


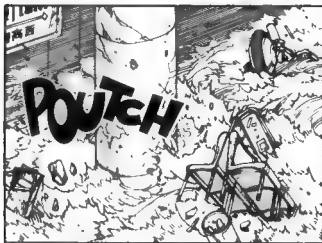
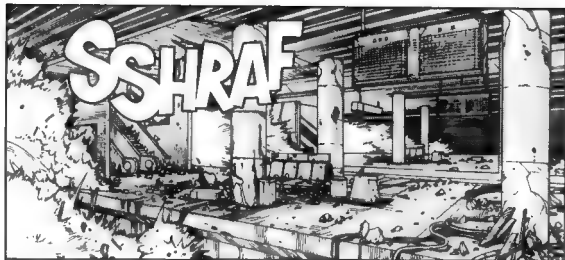




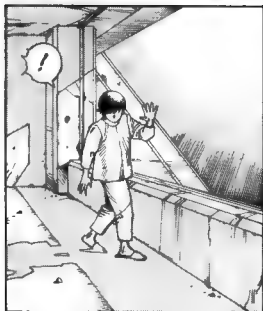


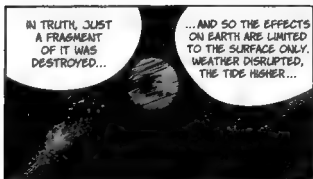


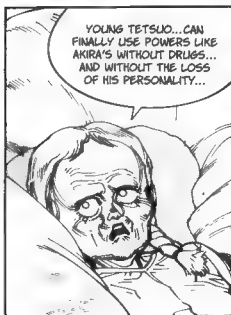
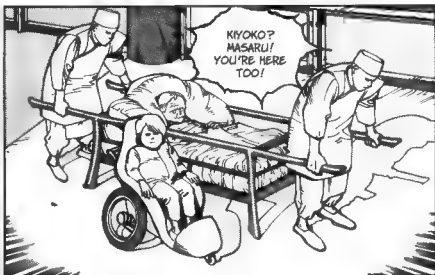




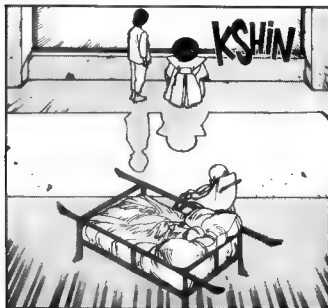


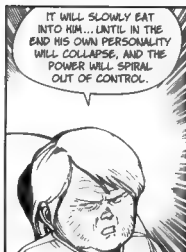


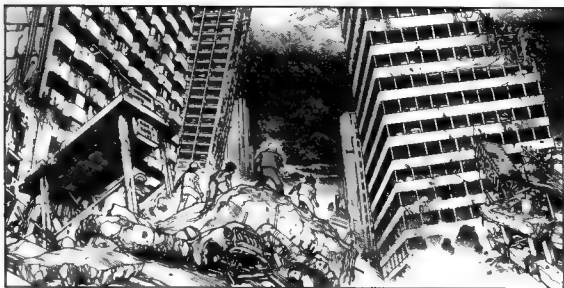


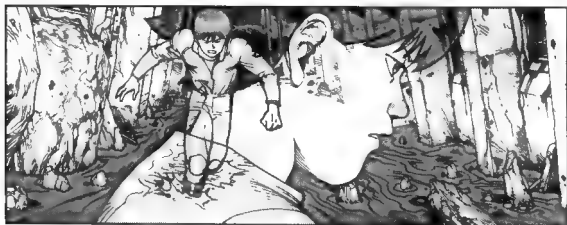
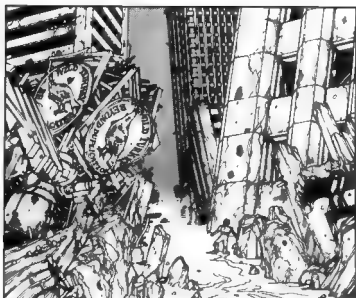
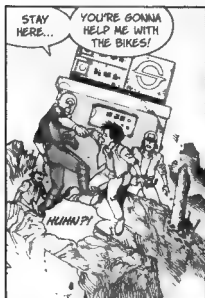


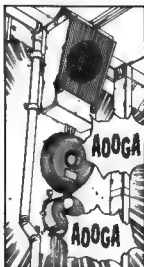


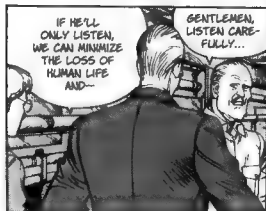
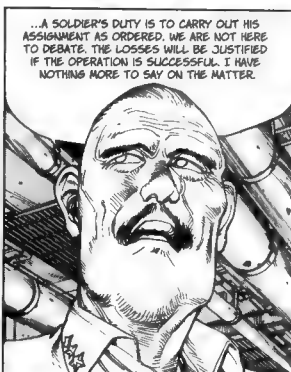
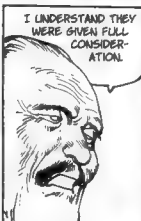
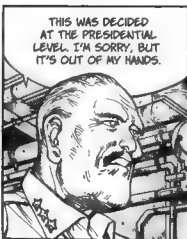
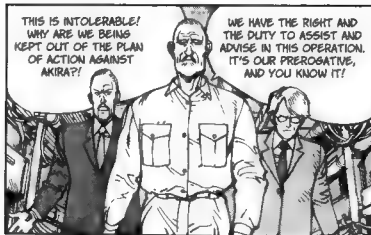






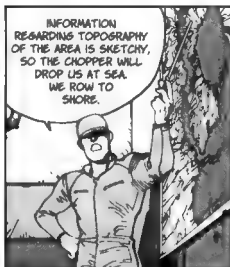








THIS IS THE
DROP ZONE.
WE WILL
DISEMBARK...
HERE.



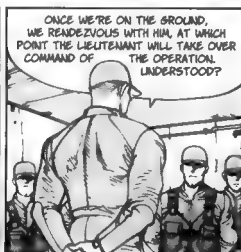
INFORMATION
REGARDING TOPOGRAPHY
OF THE AREA IS SKETCHY,
SO THE CHOPPER WILL
DROP US AT SEA.
WE ROW TO
SHORE.



THIS IS A
PICTURE...



...OF LIEUTENANT
GEORGE YAMADA,
LEADER OF THE RECON
TEAM THAT INFILTRATED
NEO-TOKYO. REMEMBER
THIS FACE...

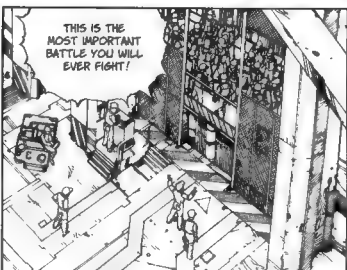
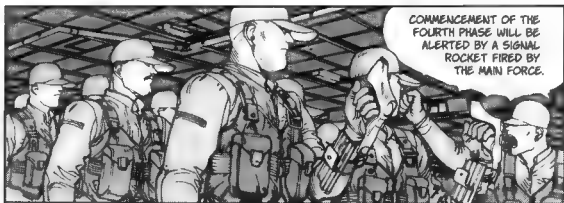


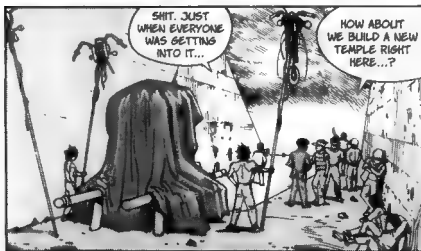
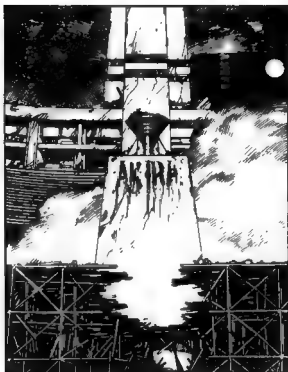
ONCE WE'RE ON THE GROUND,
WE RENDEZVOUS WITH HIM, AT WHICH
POINT THE LIEUTENANT WILL TAKE OVER
COMMAND OF THE OPERATION.
UNDERSTOOD?

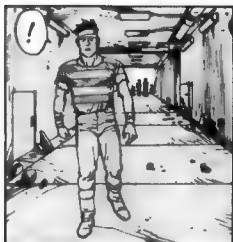
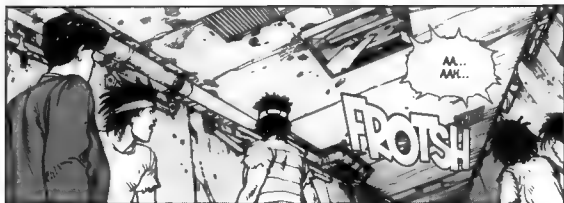


WE'LL THEN PROCEED
TO OPERATIONAL STAGE
THREE. HOWEVER! IF
YOU ARE UNABLE TO
RENDEZVOUS WITH
THE LIEUTENANT...

...OR SHOULD YOU
DETECT ANYTHING UNUSUAL
ABOUT HIM OR HIS ACTIONS...
PROCEED TO STAGE THREE
AT YOUR INDIVIDUAL
DISCRETION...!

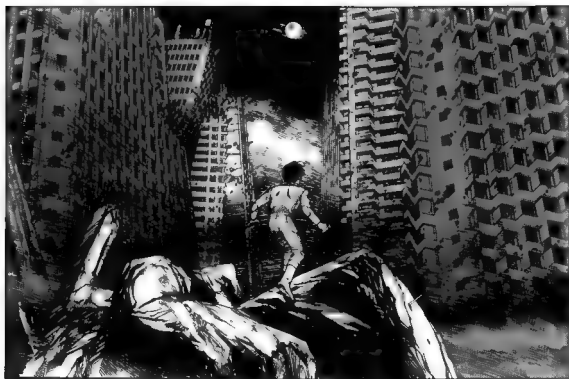




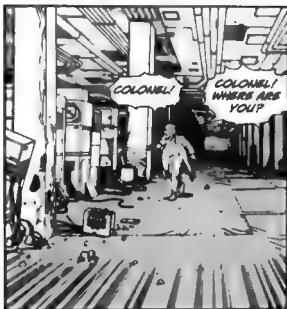




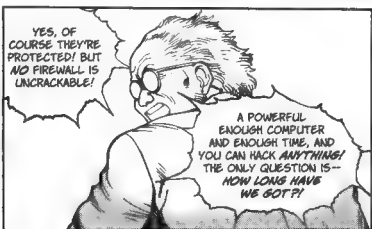
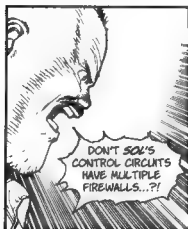


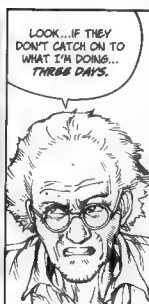
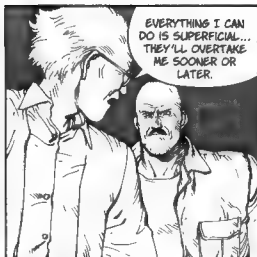


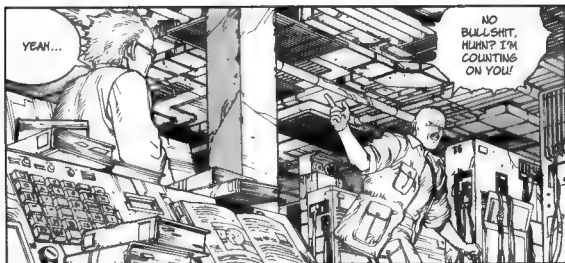


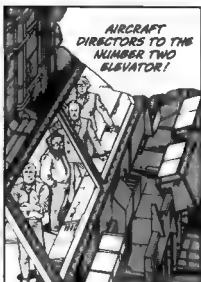
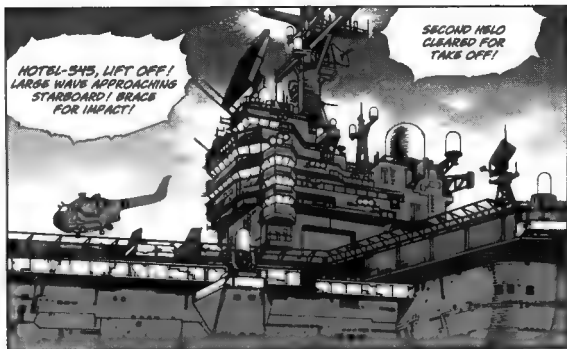


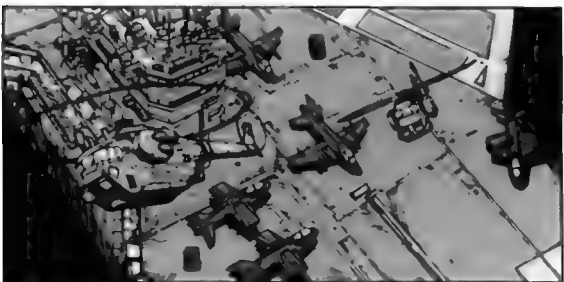
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...PROCEED TO SHORE
UNDER YOUR OWN
POWER!

RENDEZVOUS AT POINT
ALPHA-3 AT OH-THREE-
HUNDRED, INITIATE OP AT
OH-THREE-FIFTEEN!

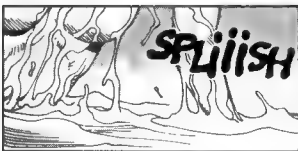
ANY STRAGGLERS
WILL BE CONSIDERED
DROWNED! THAT MEANS
NO MEDALS!

UNDERSTAND?

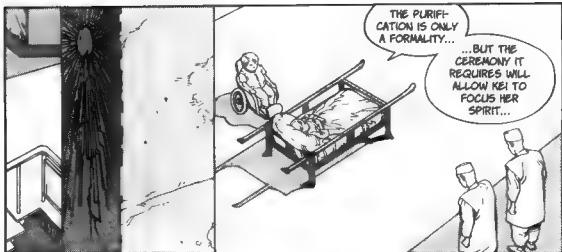
AYE AYE,
SIR!

Voooooooooooo

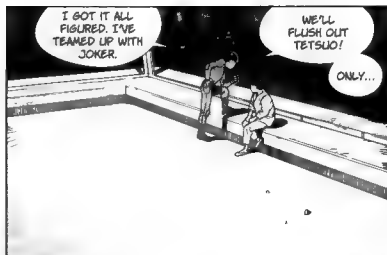




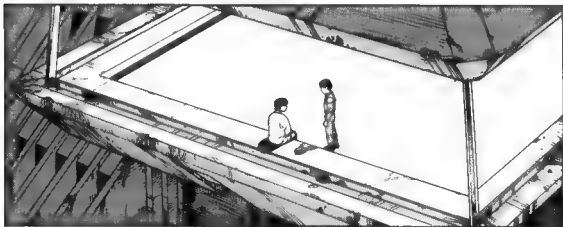


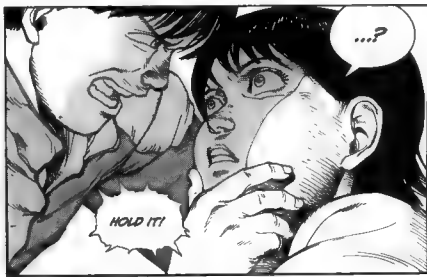






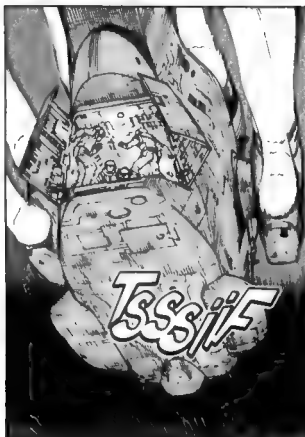
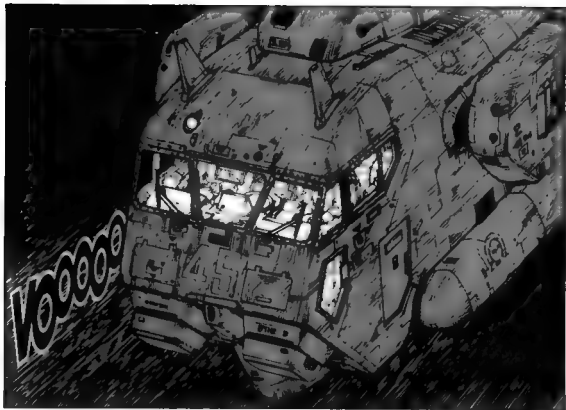


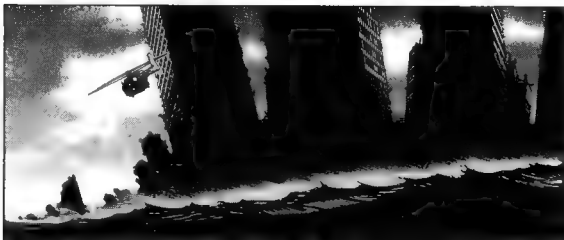
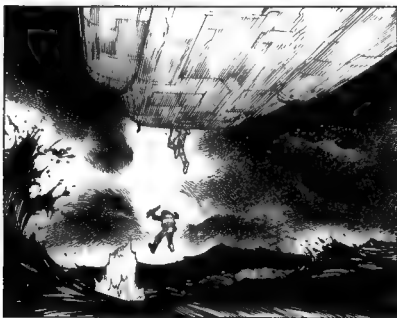
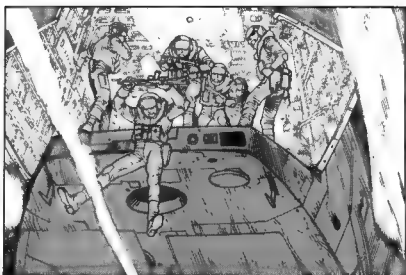


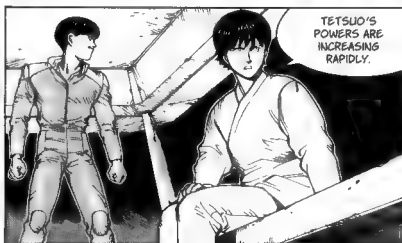






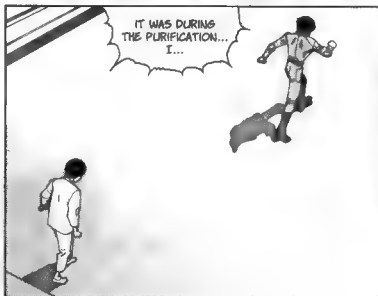










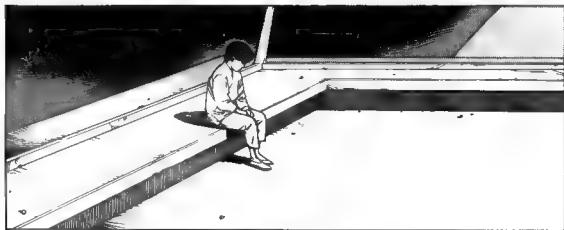


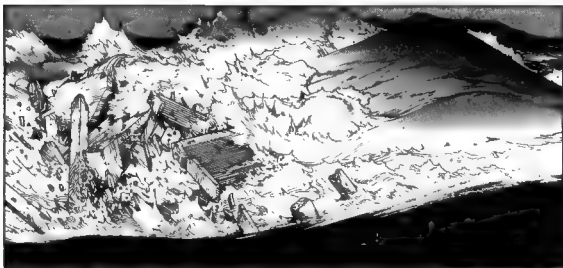
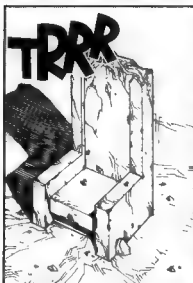


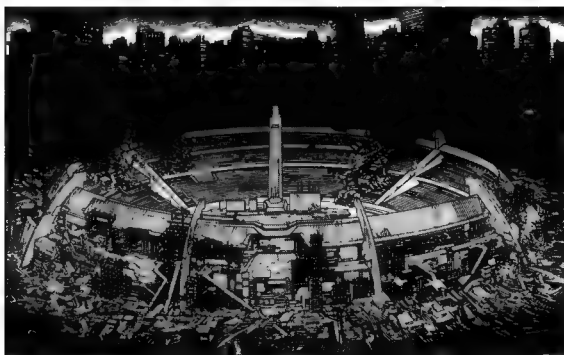






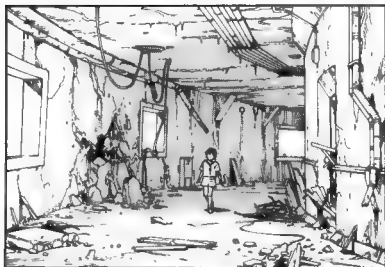




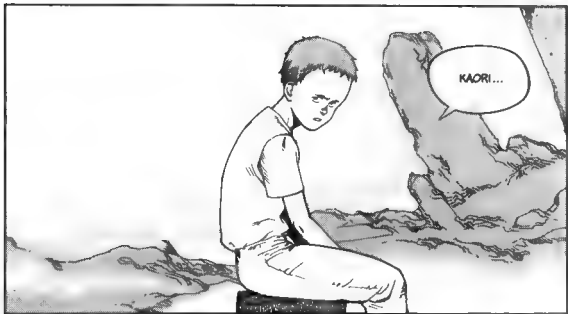
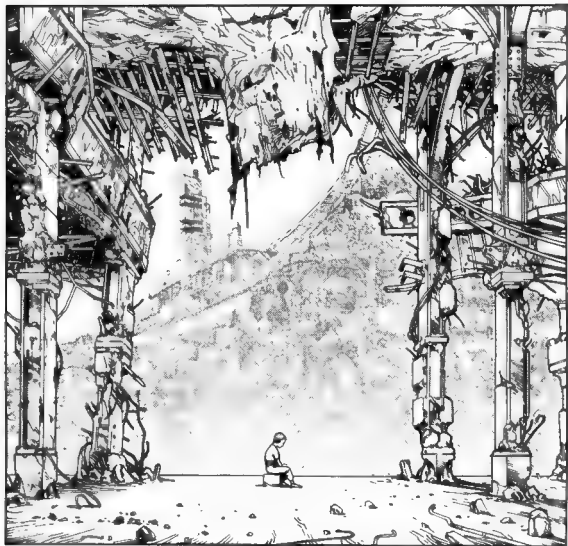


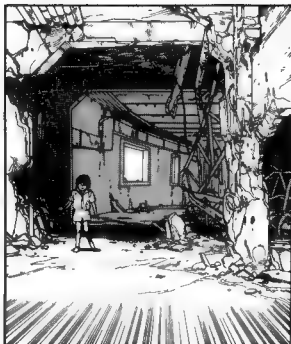




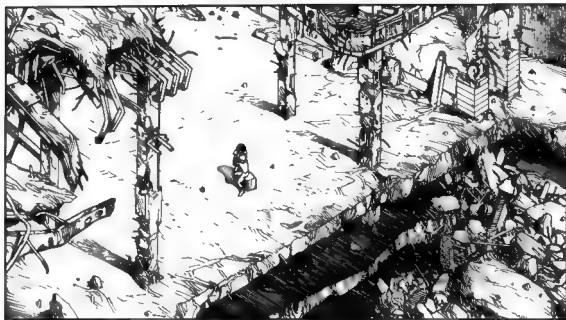






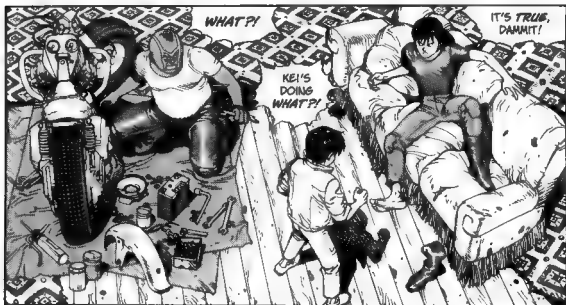


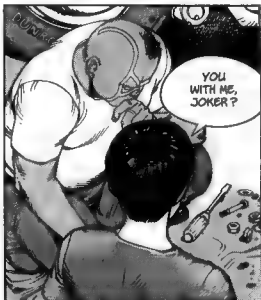


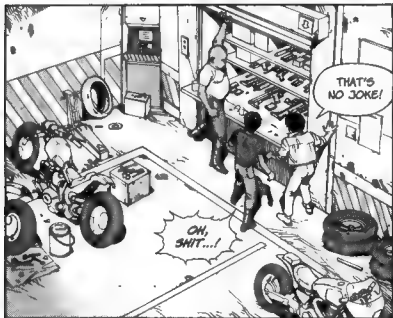
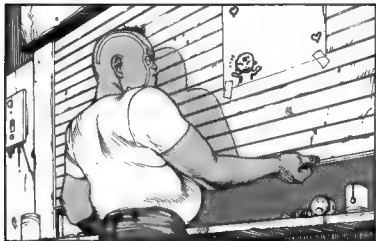


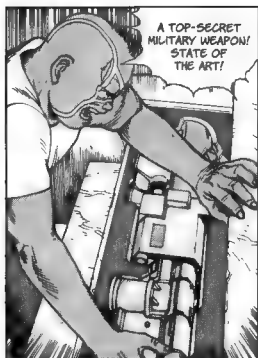


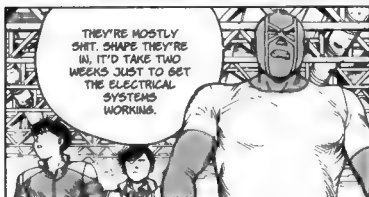


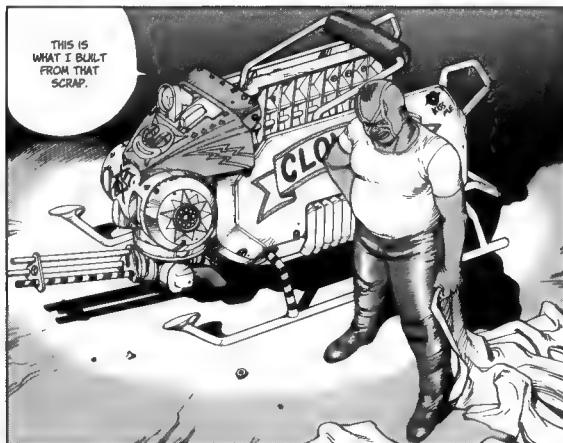


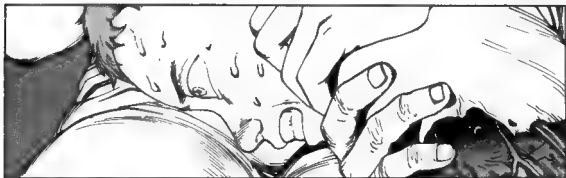


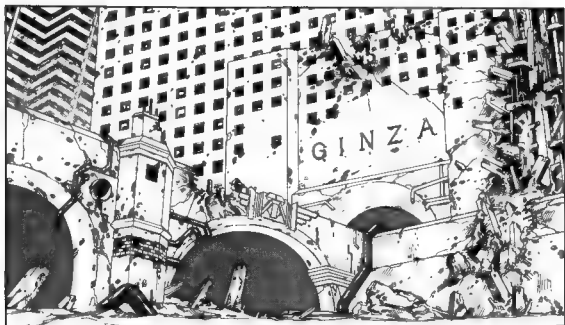


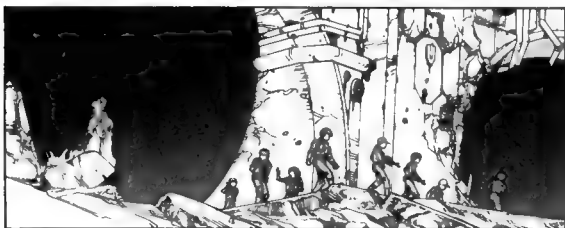


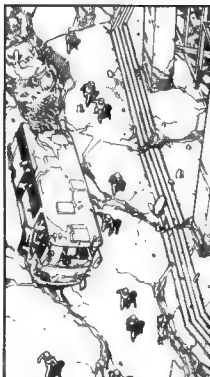














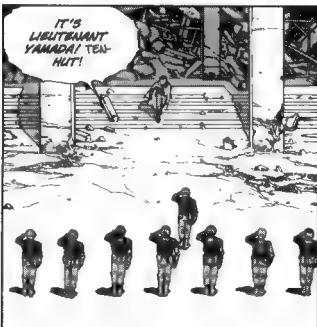
PREPARE
YOURSELVES,
CITIZENS!

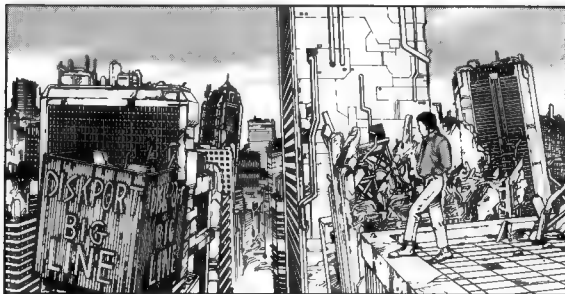


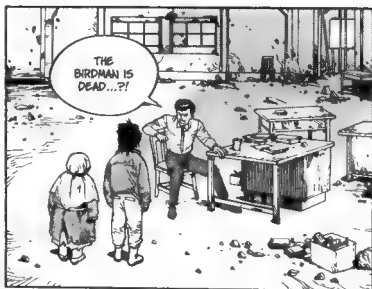
TAKA
TAKATA



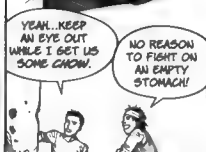
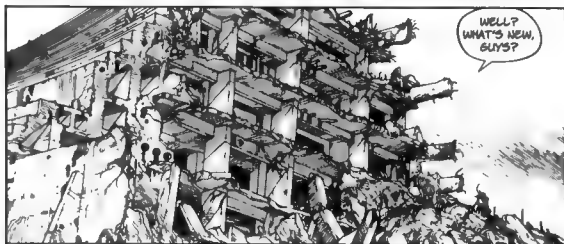


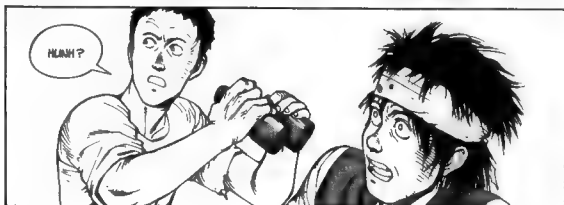








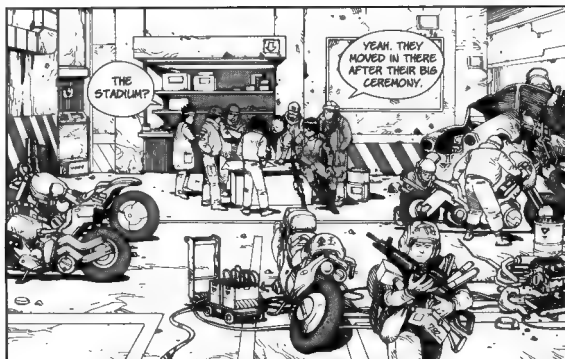




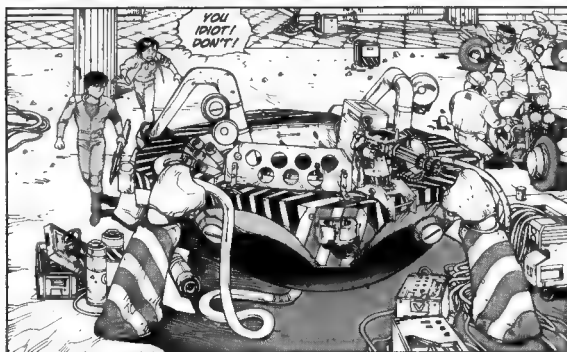




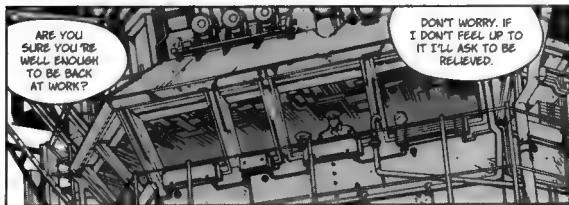
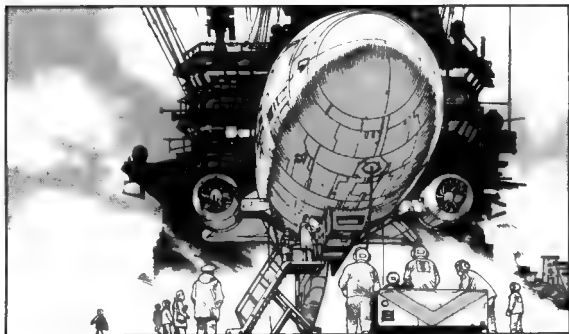














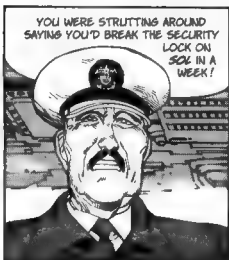
THREE MORE DAYS...TWO MORE DAYS...EXTENSION AFTER EXTENSION, AND NOW, TODAY, YOU STILL DON'T HAVE A CLUE WHEN YOU'LL CRACK IT?



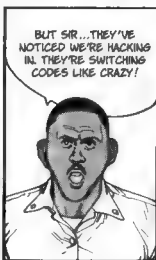
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS, LIEUTENANT?



YOU WERE STRUTTING AROUND SAYING YOU'D BREAK THE SECURITY LOCK ON SOL IN A WEEK!



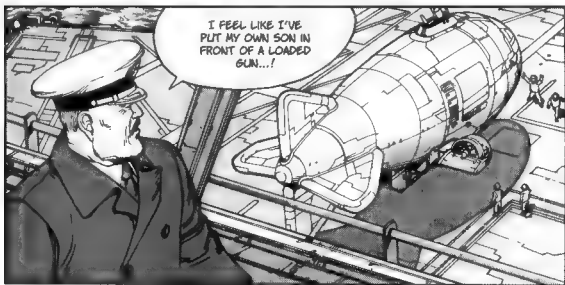
BUT SIR...THEY'VE NOTICED WE'RE HACKING IN. THEY'RE SWITCHING CODES LIKE CRAZY!

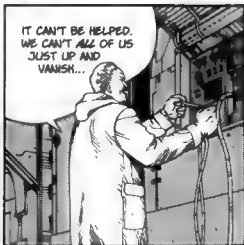
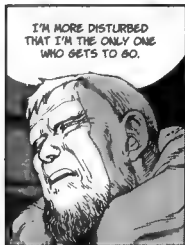


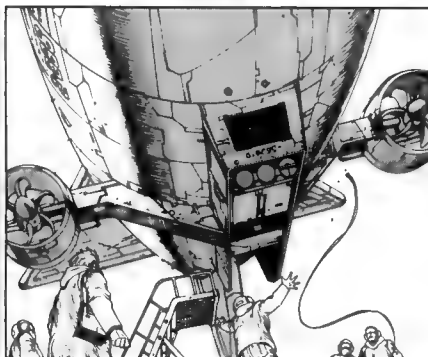
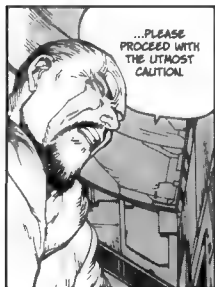
NO EXCUSES!

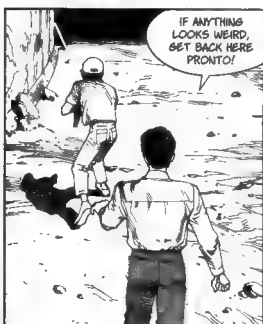
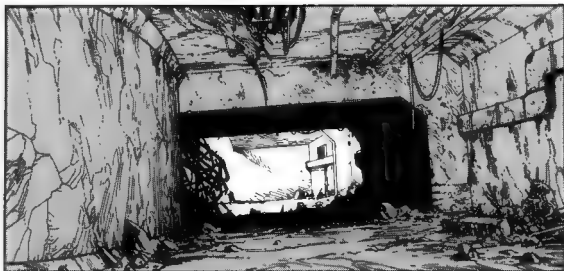


I FEEL LIKE I'VE PUT MY OWN SON IN FRONT OF A LOADED GUN...!

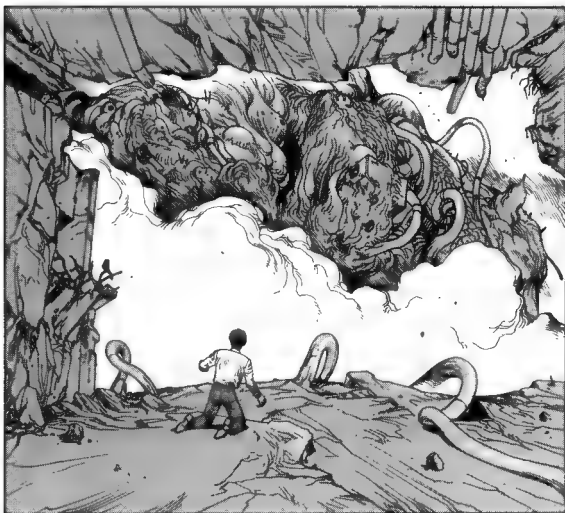




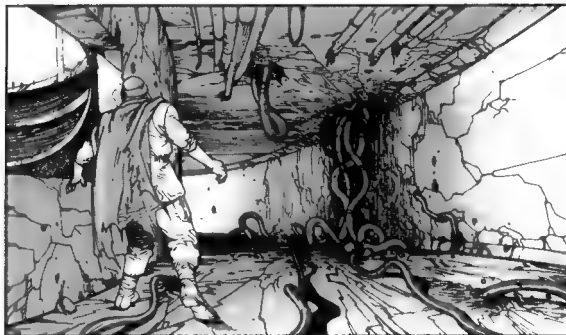
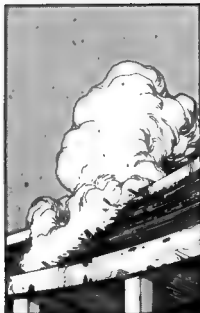


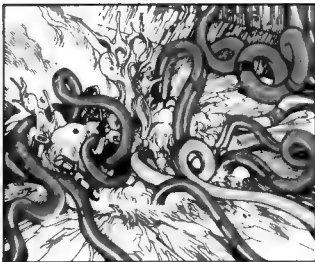


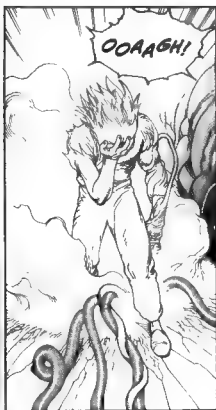


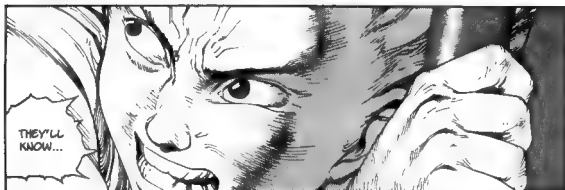


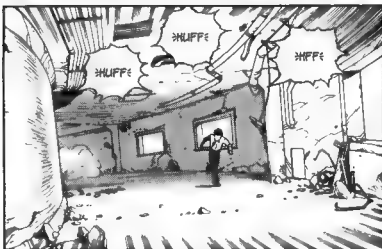


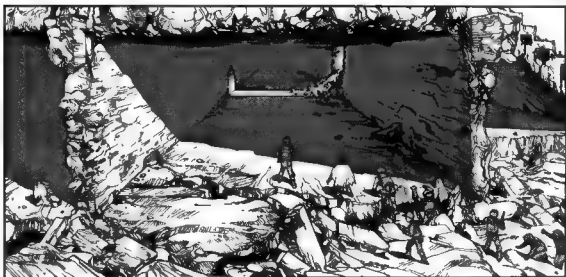
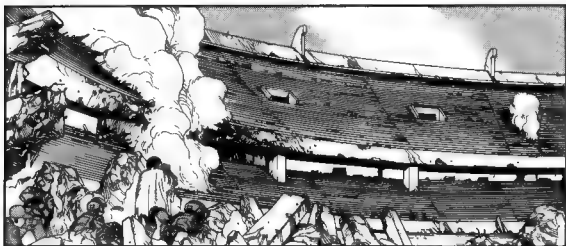


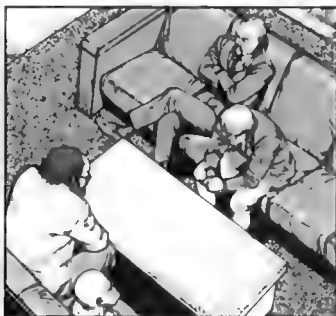


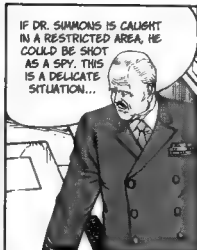
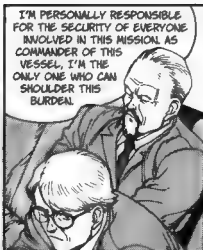


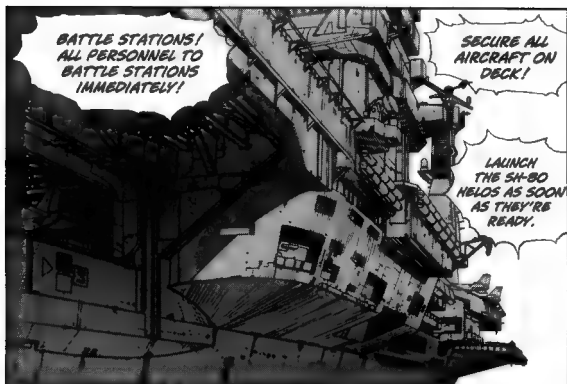




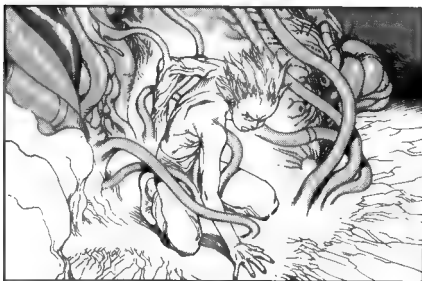


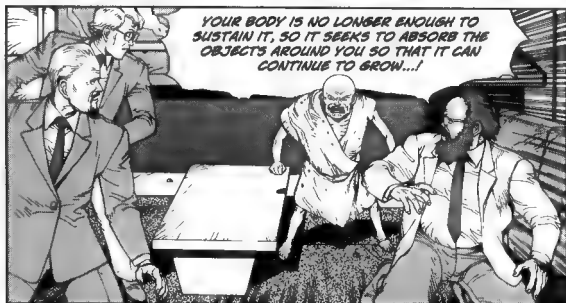




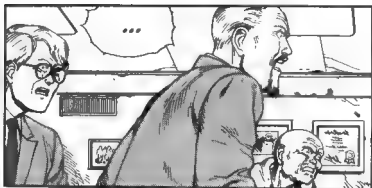


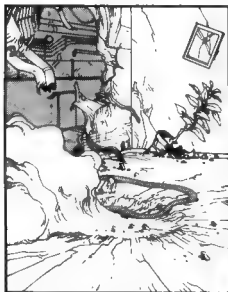




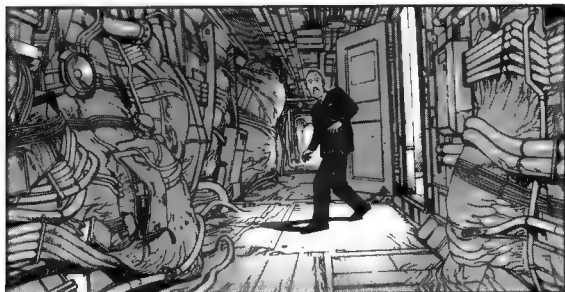


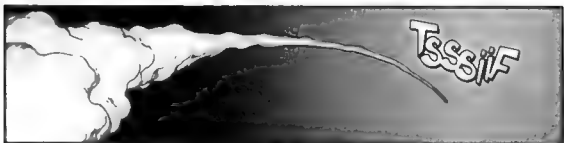
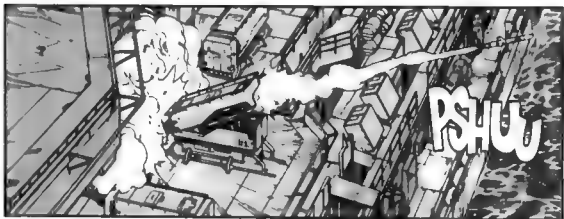
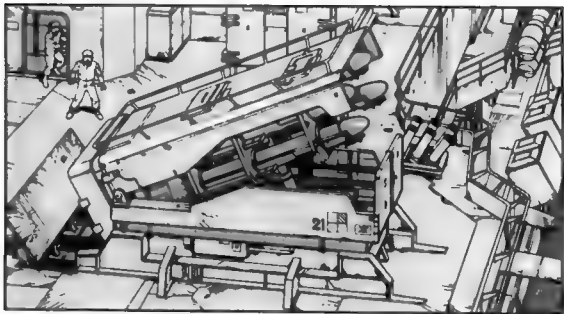


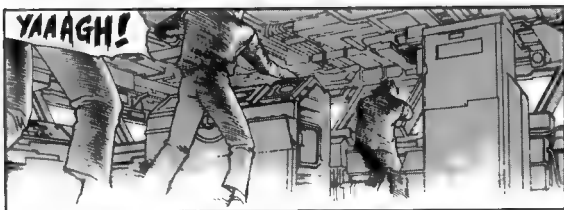
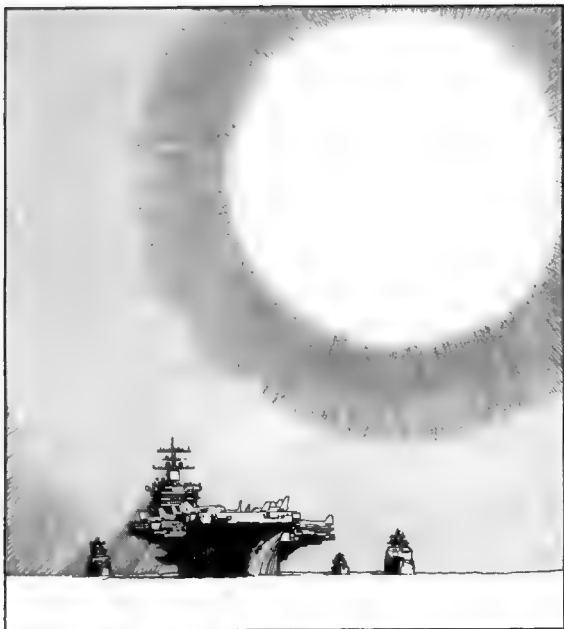


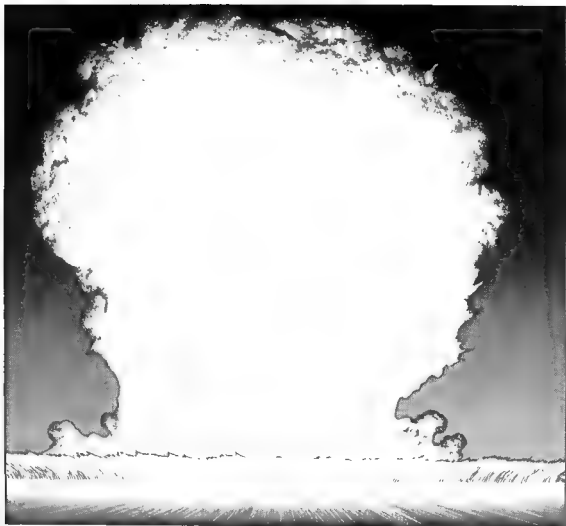


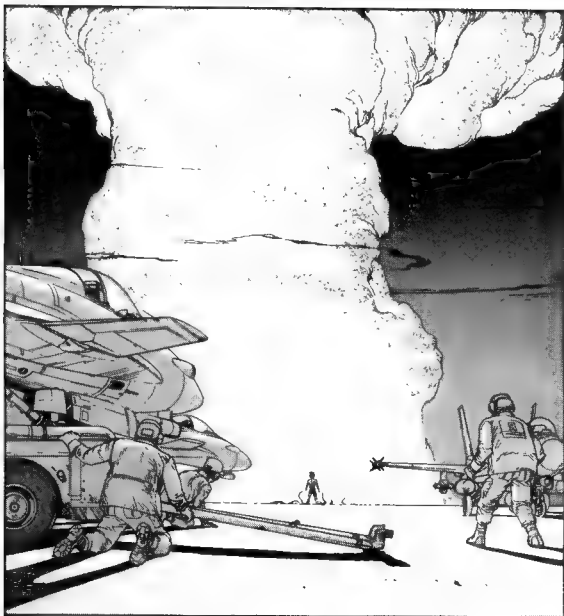


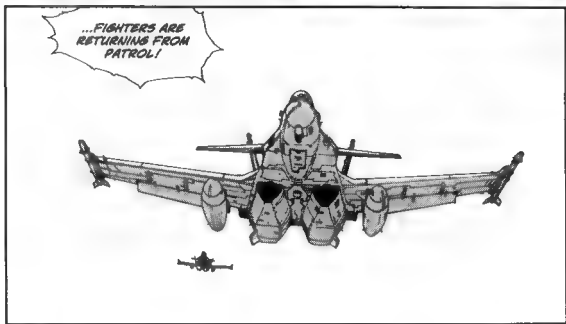


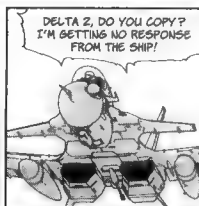
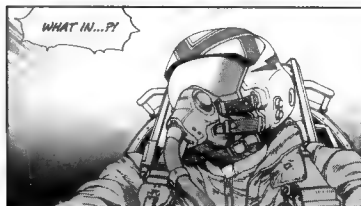
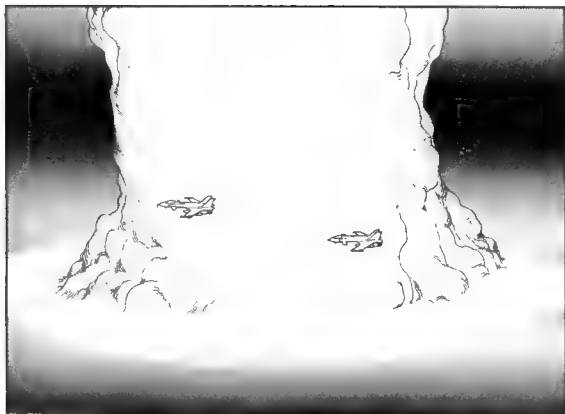


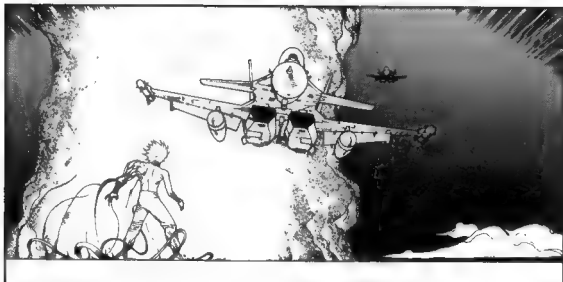


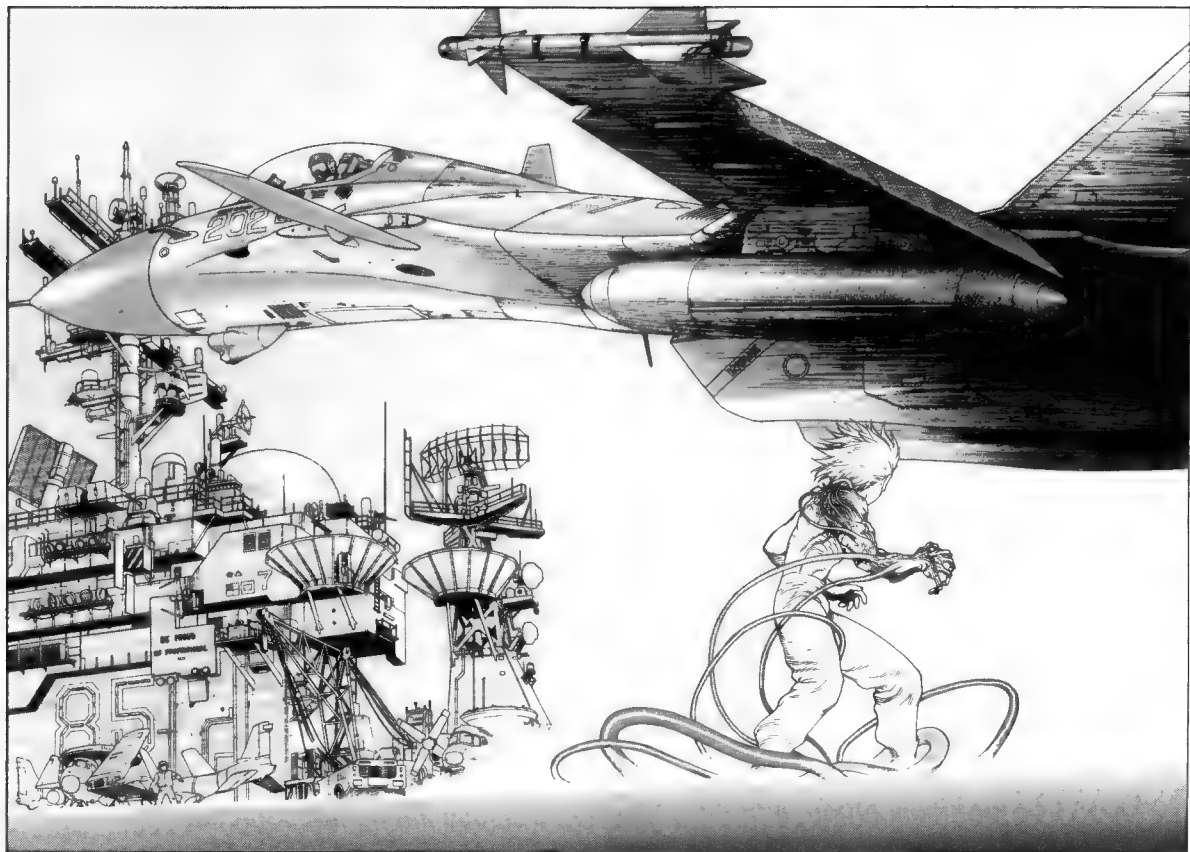


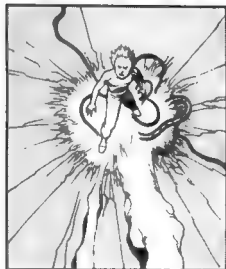
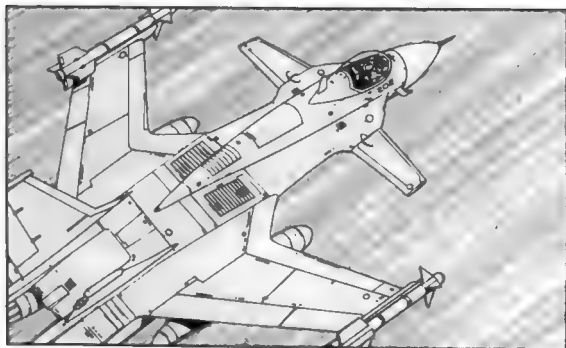




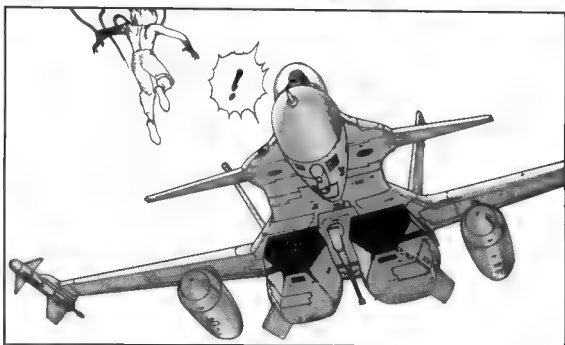
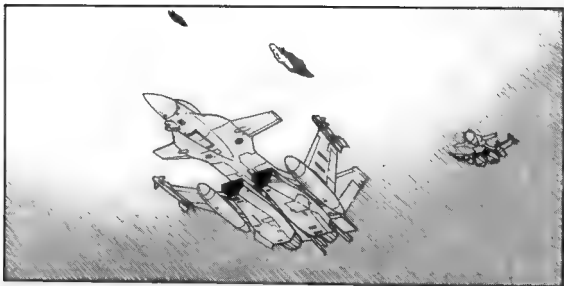


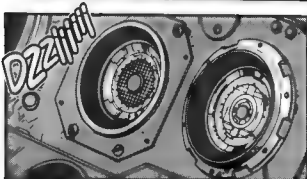


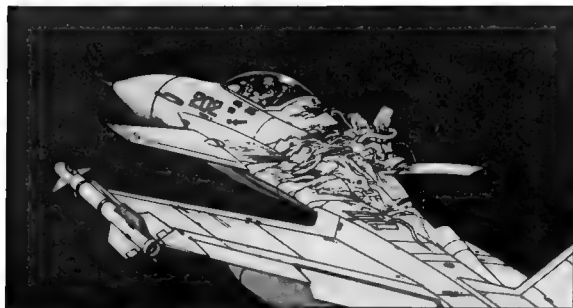
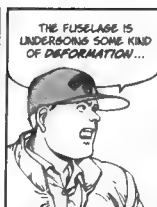




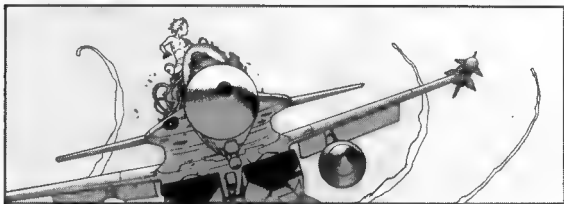


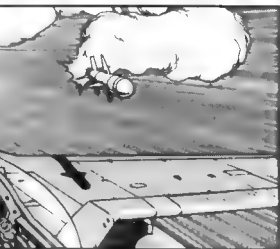
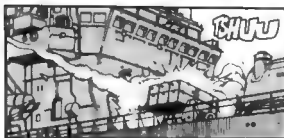
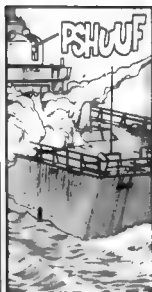


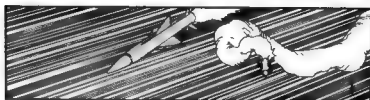


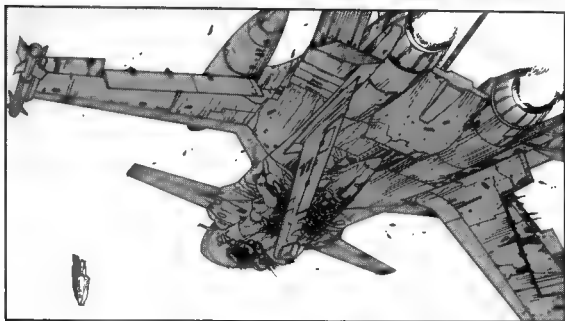
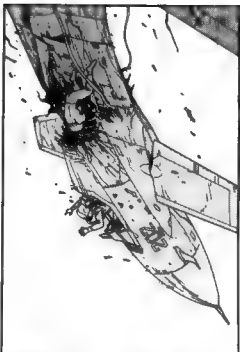


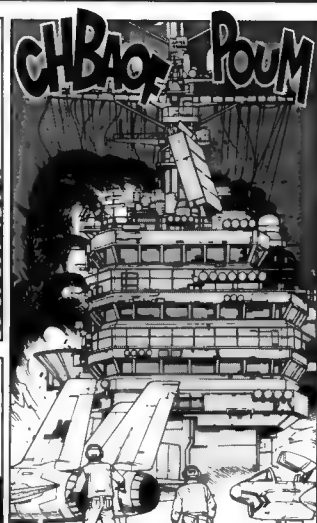




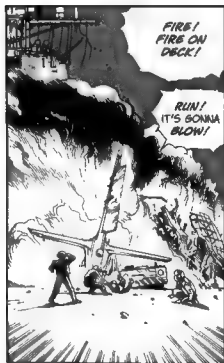


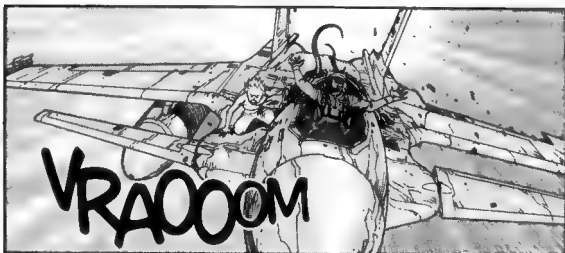
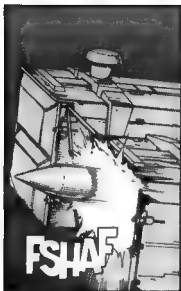


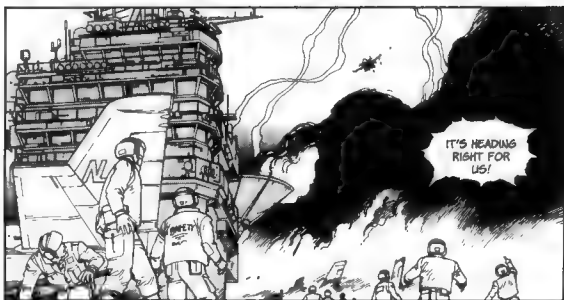
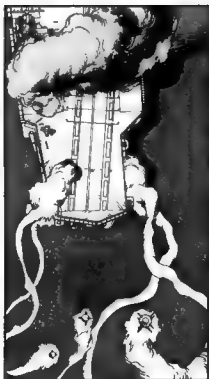


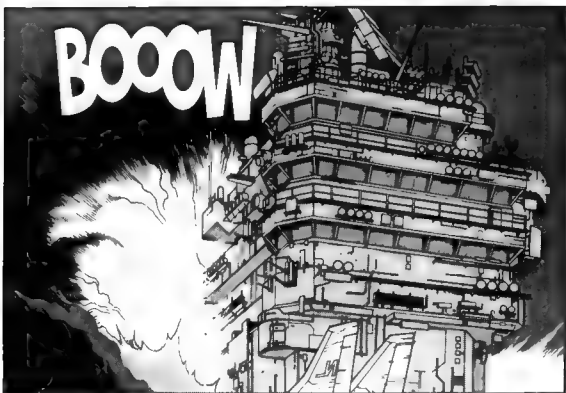
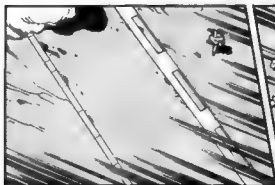
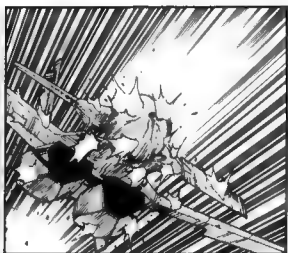
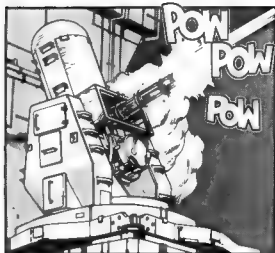


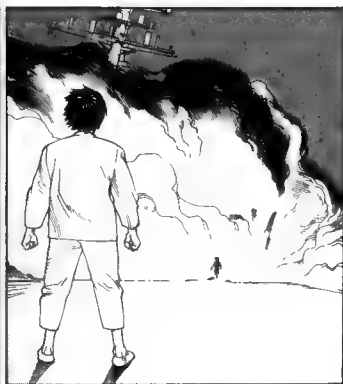
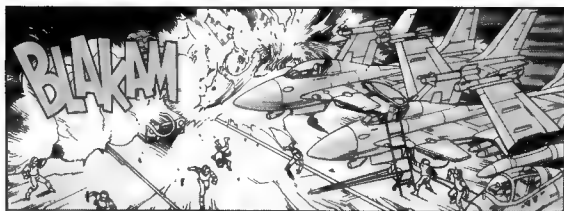
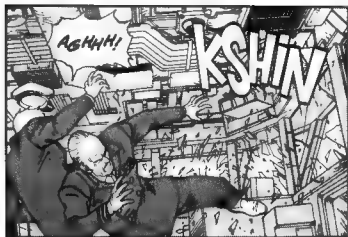




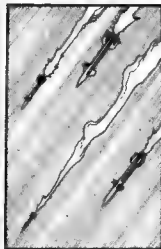




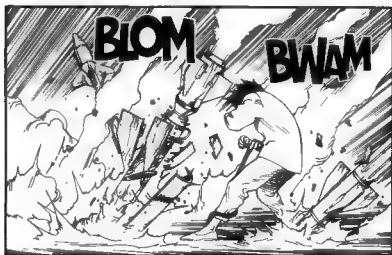


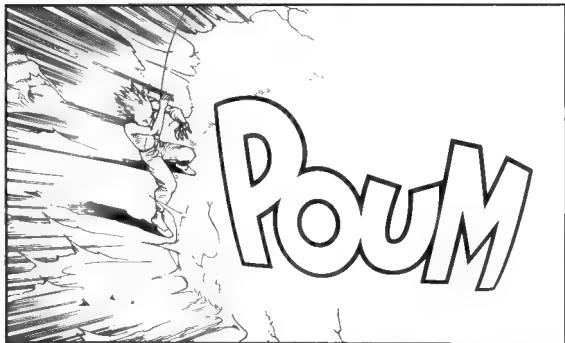






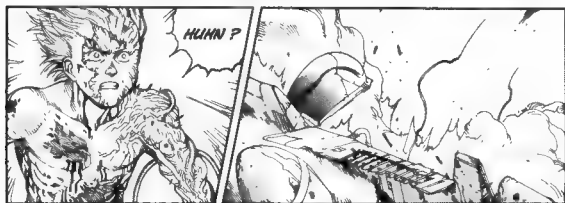
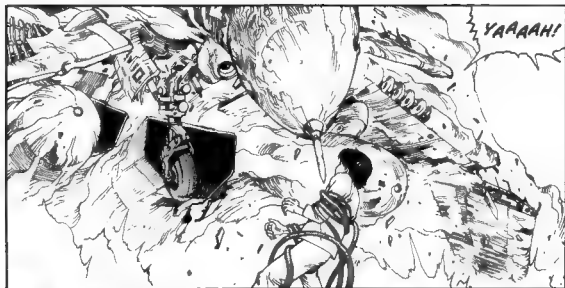


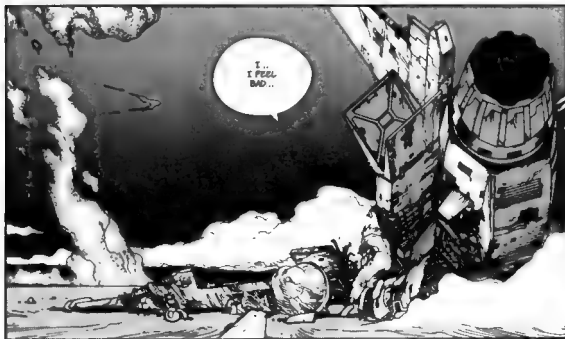
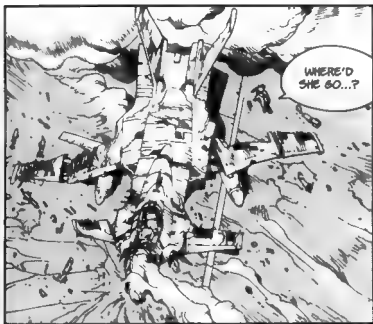




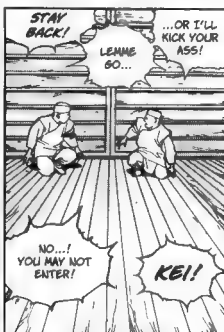
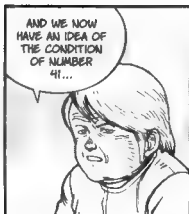


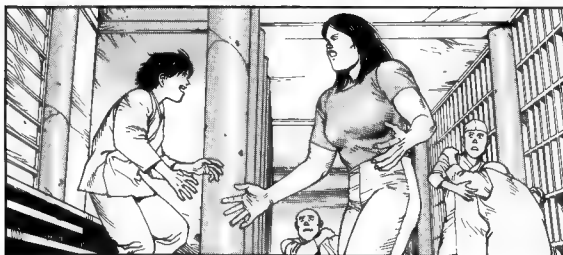


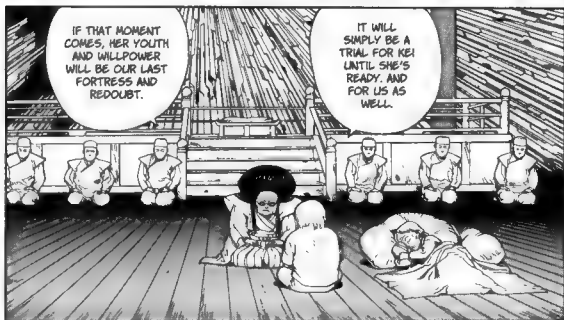


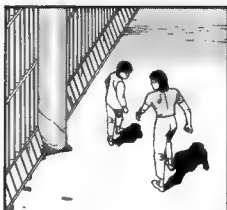








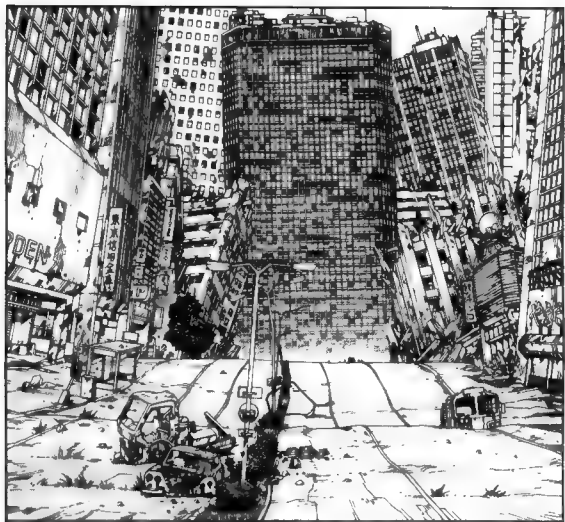


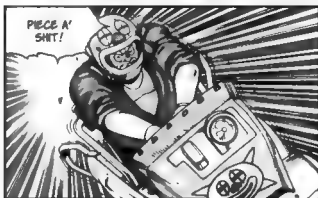
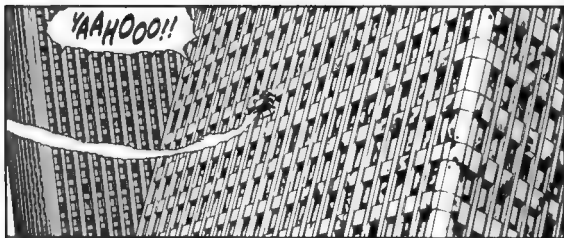




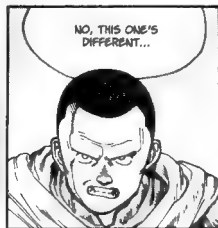
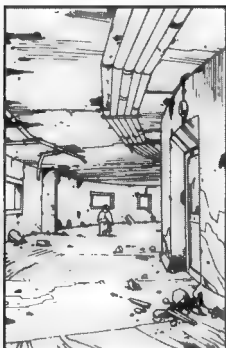






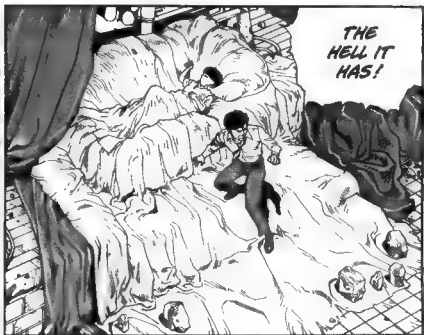


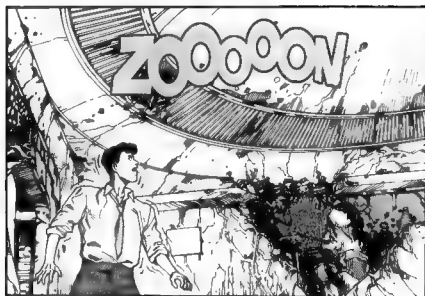


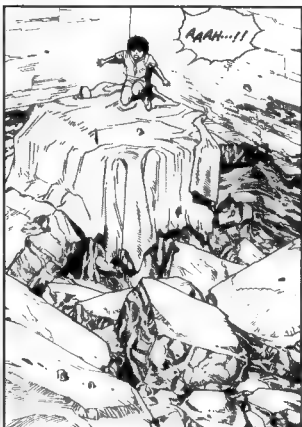


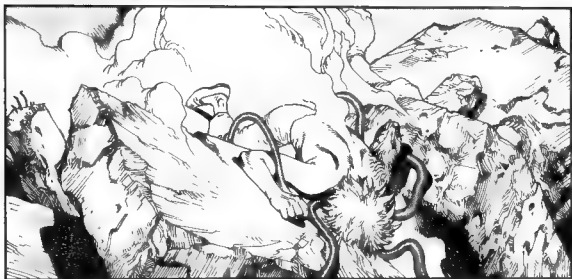


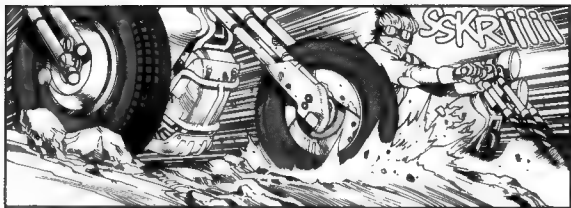


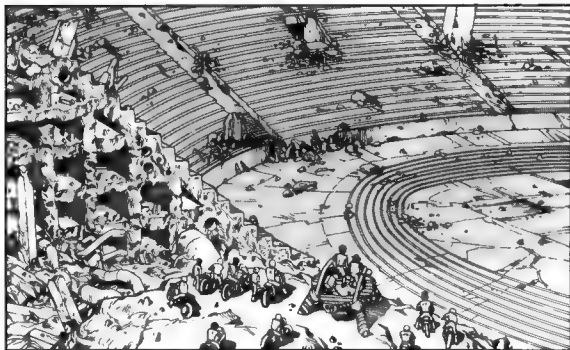














IN THE 21ST CENTURY,

the once-glittering Neo-Tokyo lies in ruin, leveled in minutes by the infinite power of the child psychic, Akira. From the flooded wasteland of rubble and anarchy, the Great Tokyo Empire rises, populated by a ragtag army of zealots and crazies who worship and fear Akira and his mad prime minister, Tetsuo, an angry teen with immense powers of his own — and equally immense, twisted ambitions. The world at large is not taking the threat lying down, and the military strength of the planet is massing to take on the Empire, but will technology's most advanced weaponry be enough to destroy Akira? And are the rapidly growing paranormal abilities of Tetsuo a potentially greater threat?

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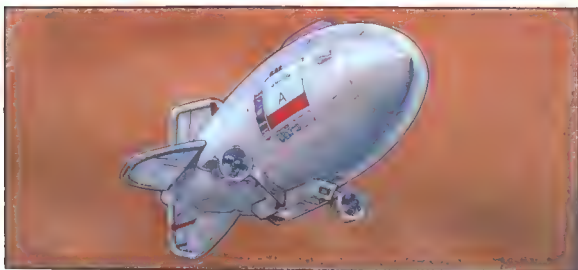
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THE STORY SO FAR

Kai, Chiyoko, and Ryu, along with the incapacitated Masaru and Isobe, have survived Abira's first assault. Katsuka leads Kaneda through the barter town, where he meets the leader of the bandits around the town, the leader of Kaneda's old adversary.

And so, as forces converge, the stage is set for the final confrontation and, perhaps, for mankind's final reckoning.

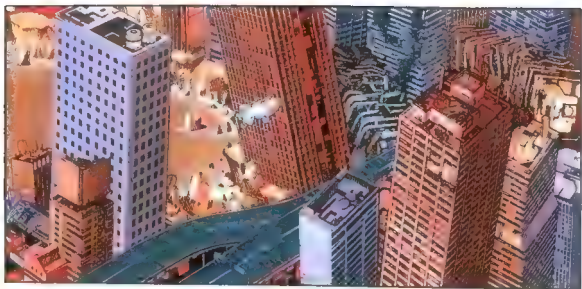


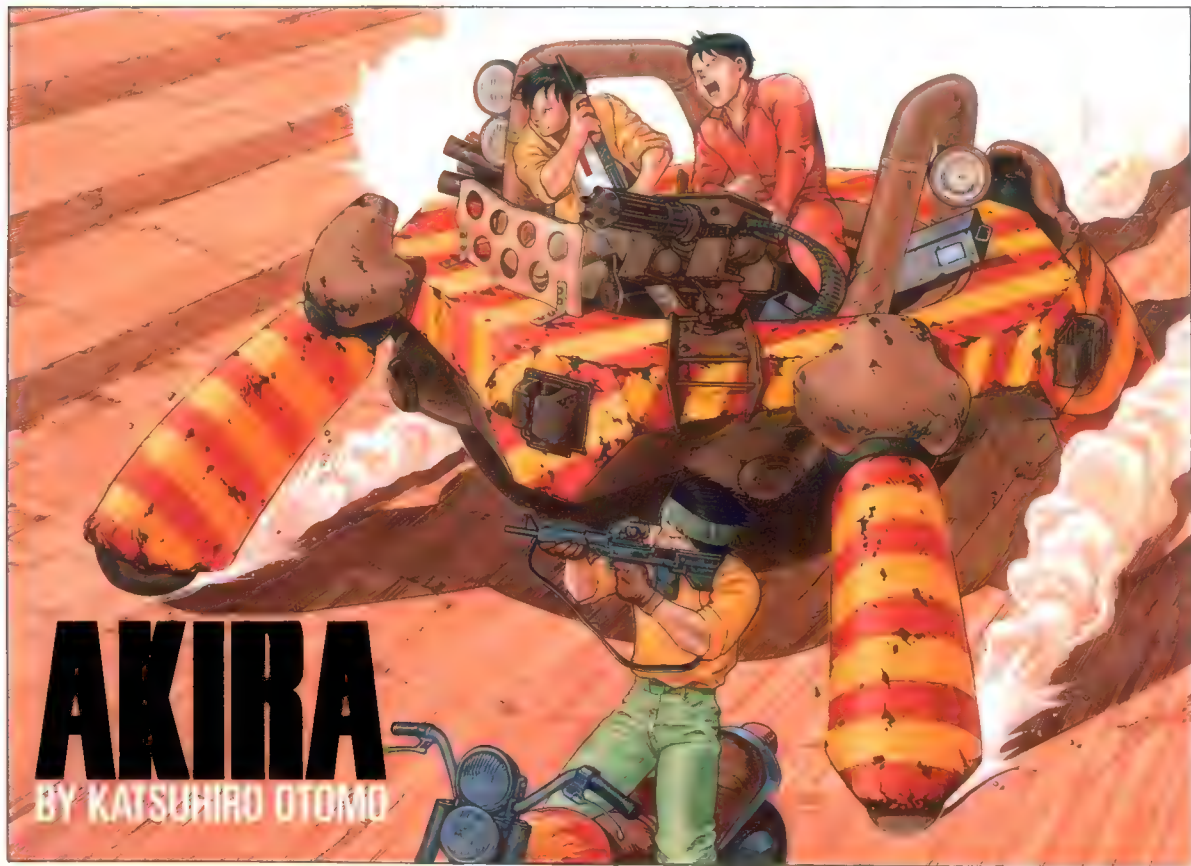


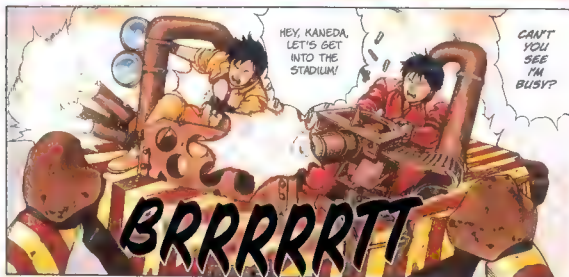
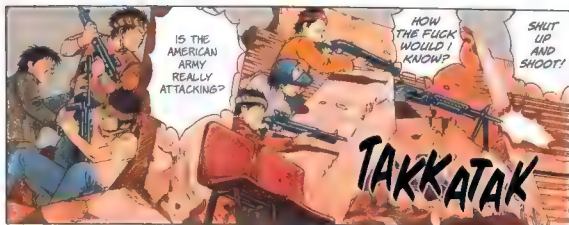
I'VE
DRIFTED INTO
THE WESTERN
SECTOR

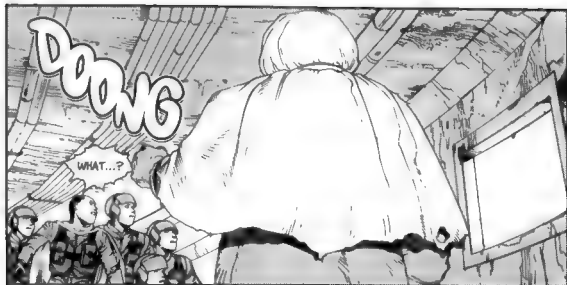


LET'S SEE...
I NEED TO
FIND A
LANDING
SITE...



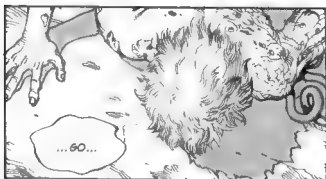




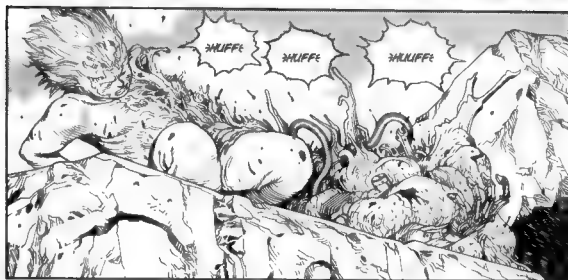


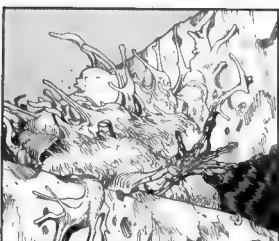










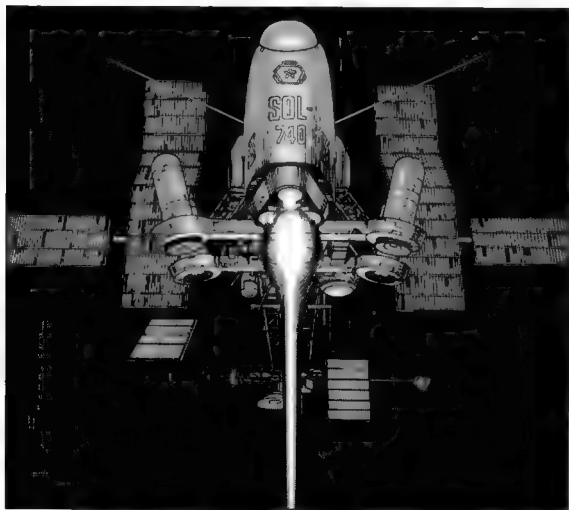
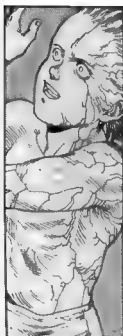


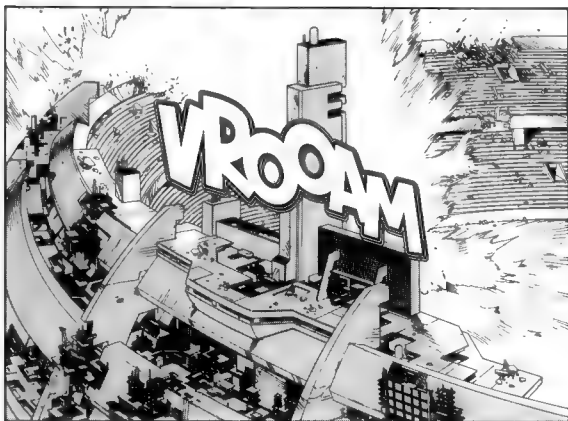


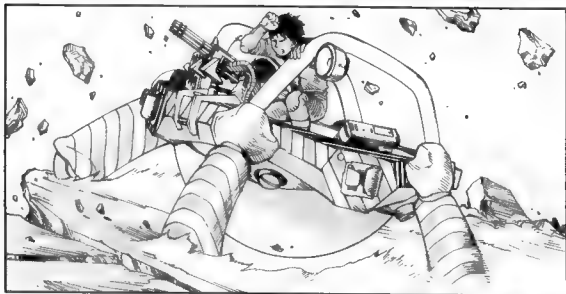


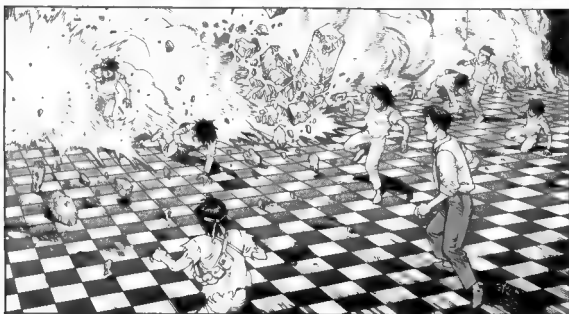
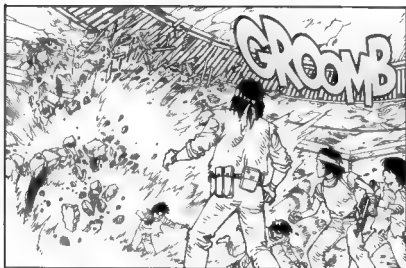




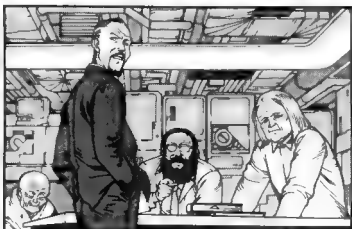


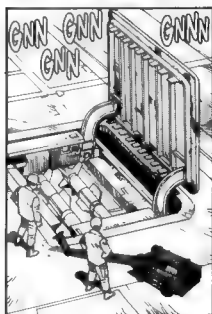
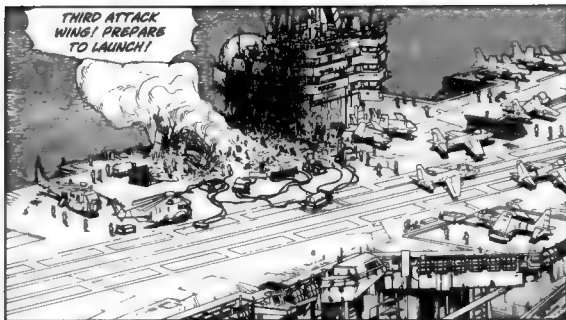


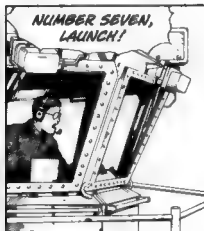
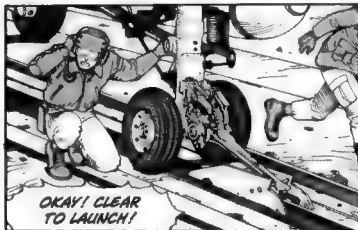
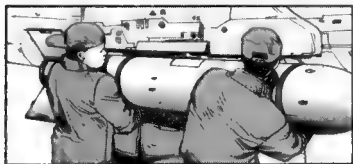


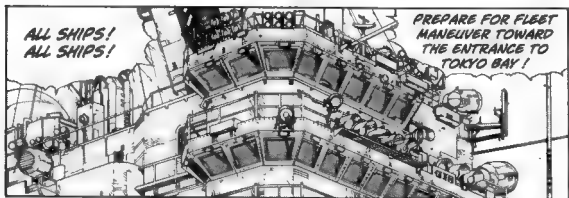
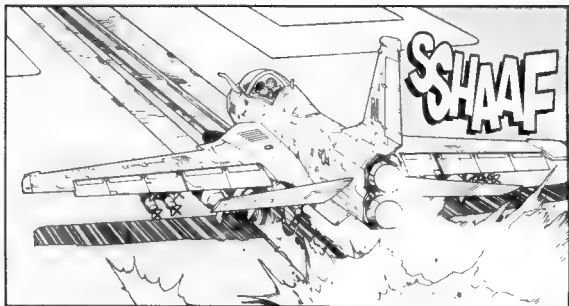


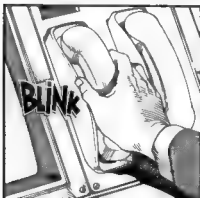
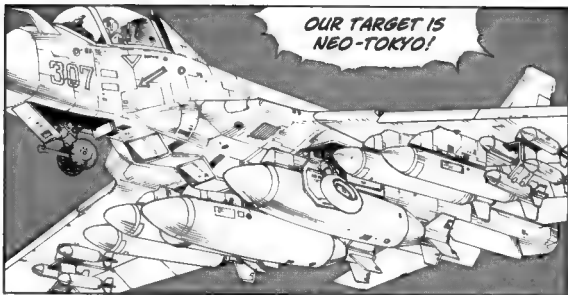


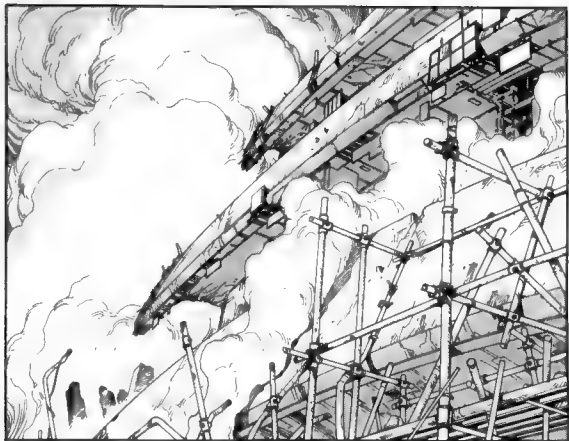


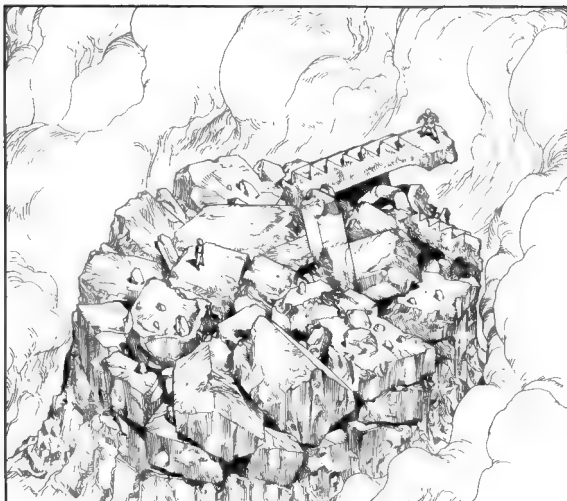








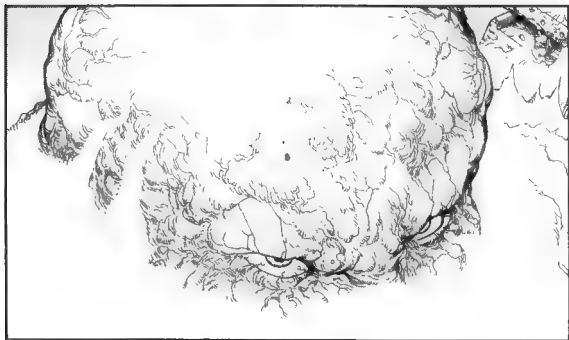




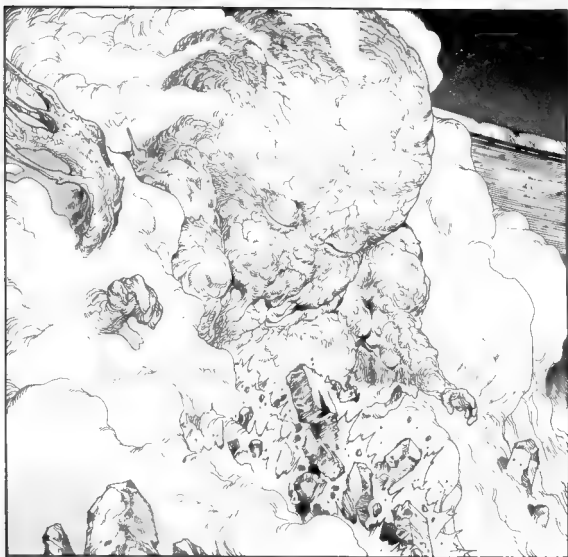
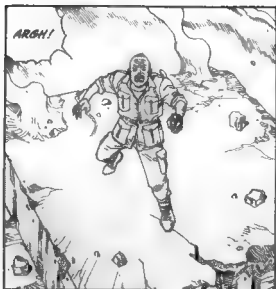


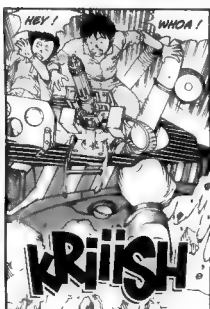
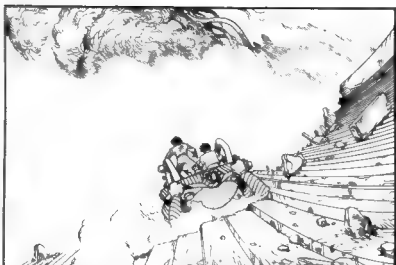


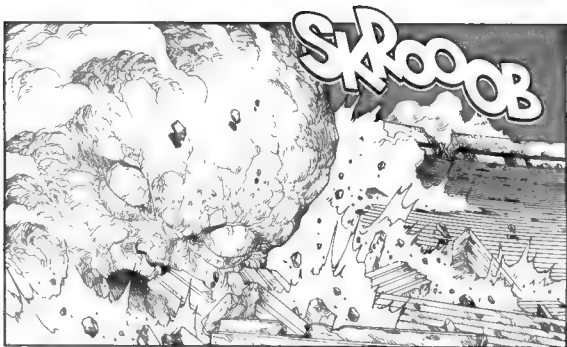


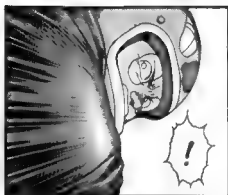


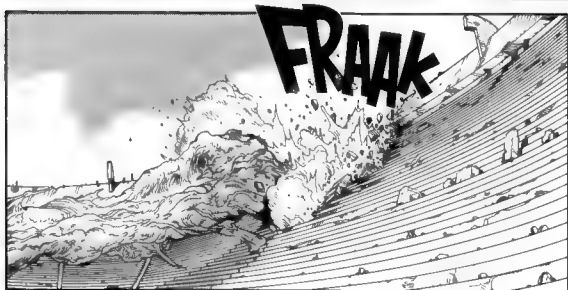
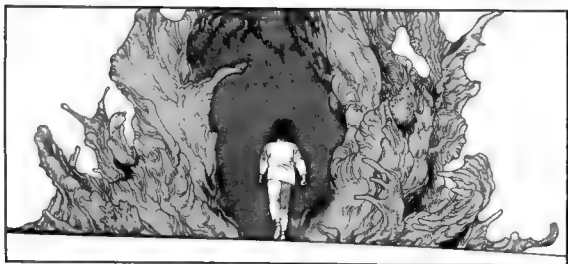




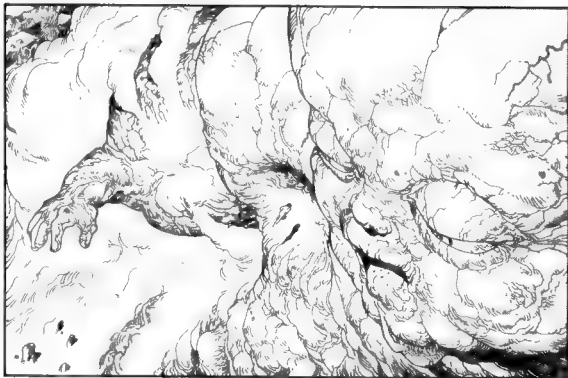


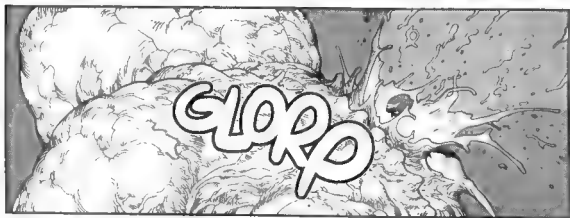




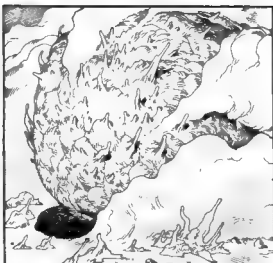


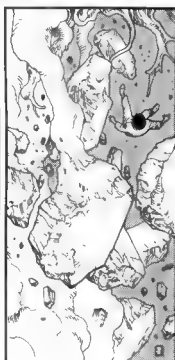




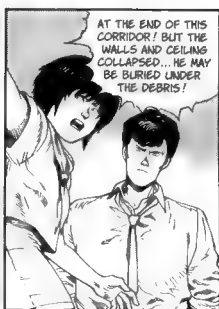




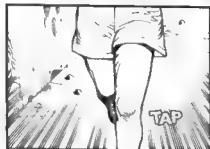


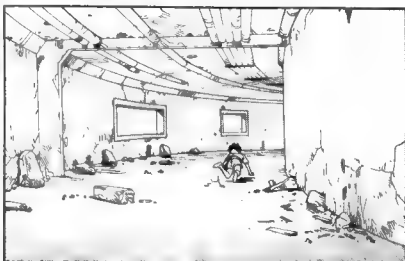
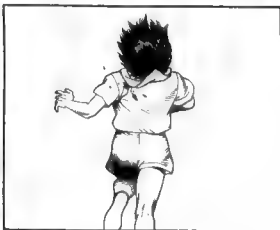
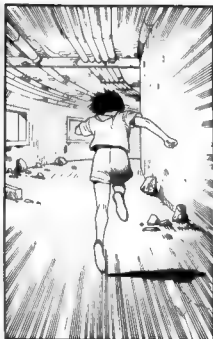




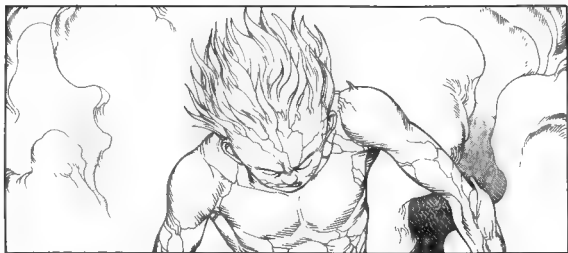


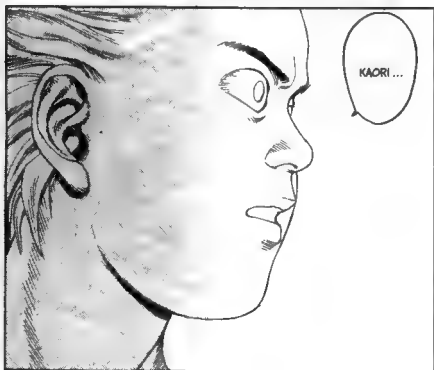
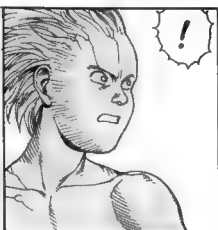
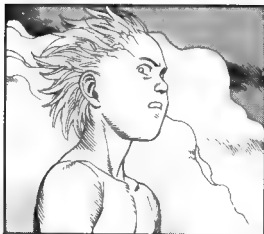




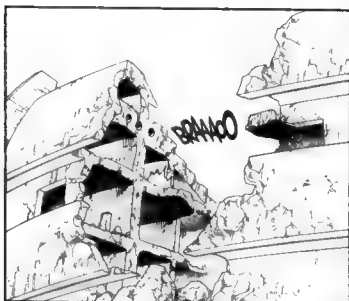


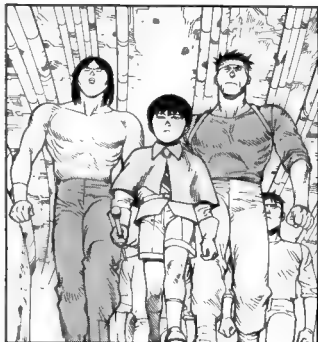
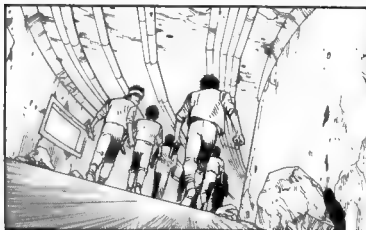


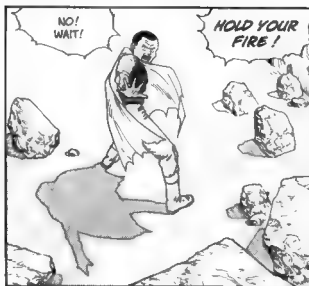


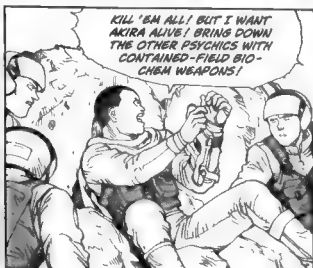




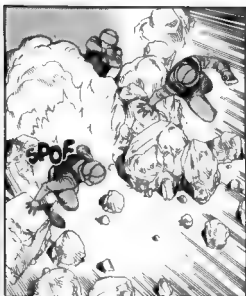




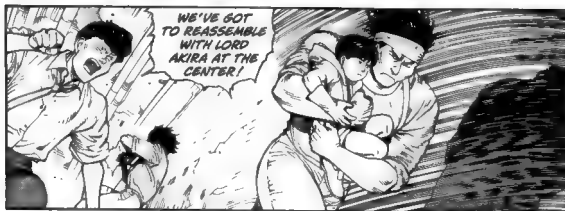




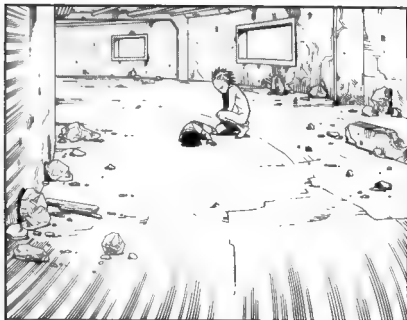
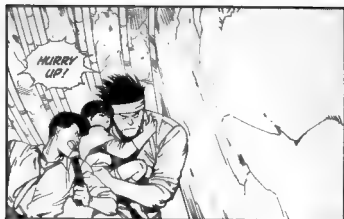


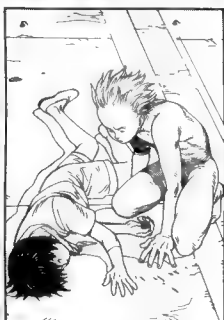
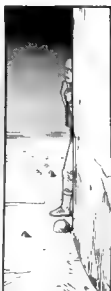


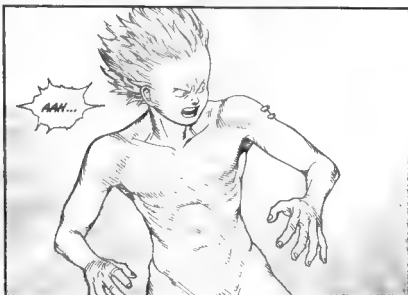




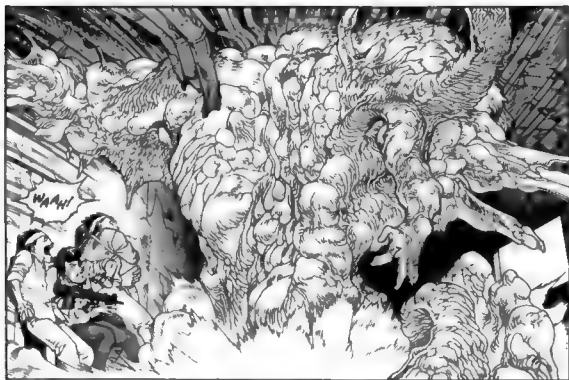


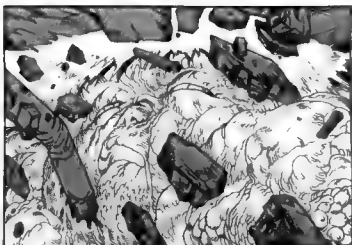




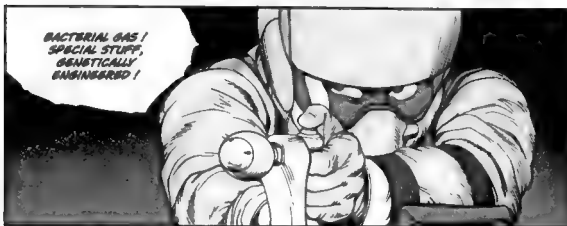
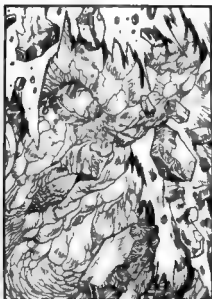


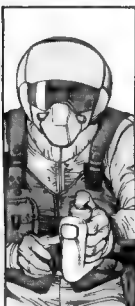




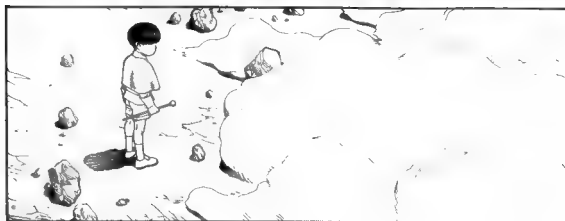


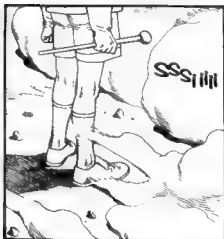


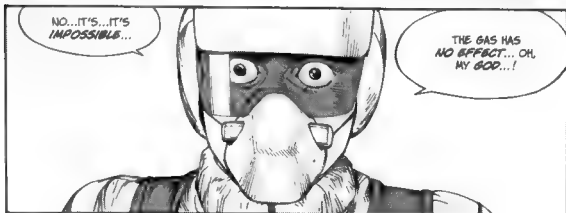
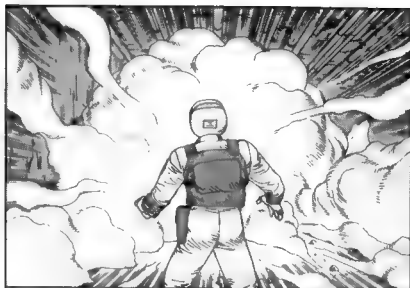


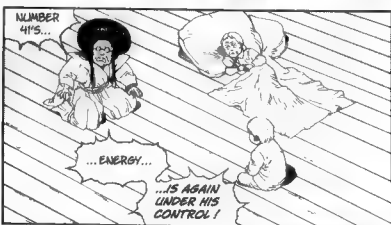
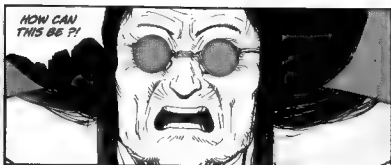




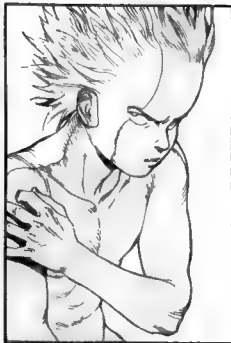
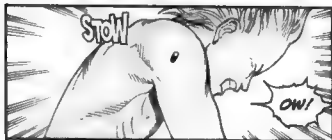
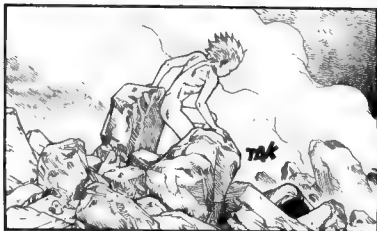
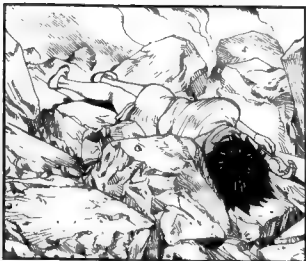




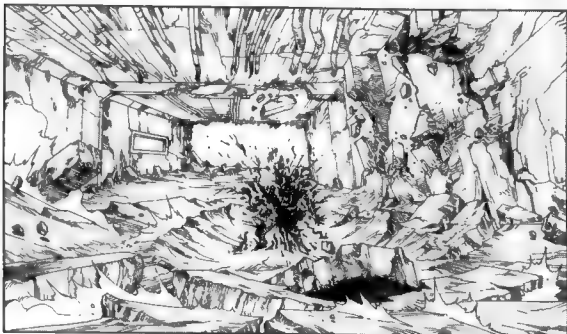














BUT...

...IF HE CAN
CONTROL HIS
POWER...



...THEN
KEI'S IN
DANGER!



THAT MAY BE
SO...BUT...



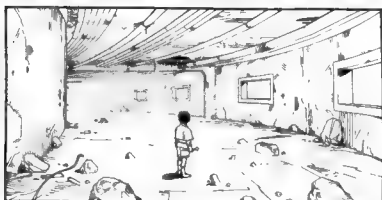
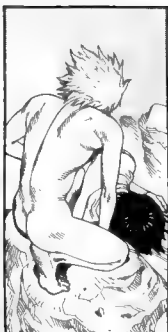
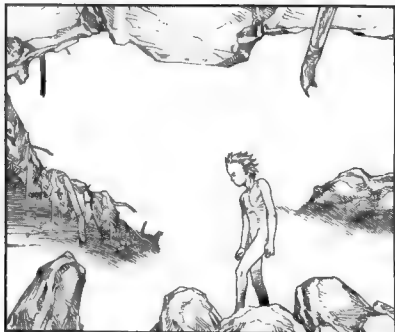
KEI!



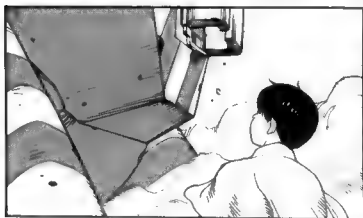
KEI!!

...OH!!...





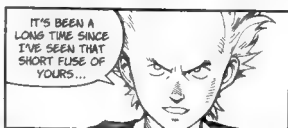






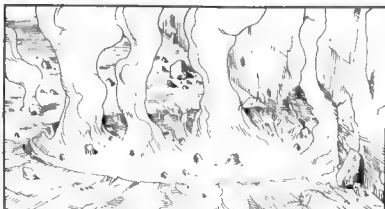


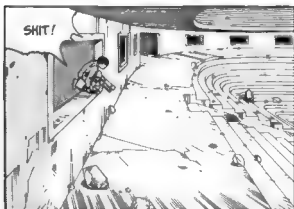




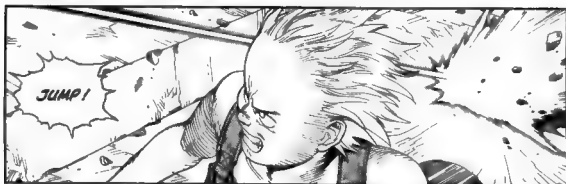


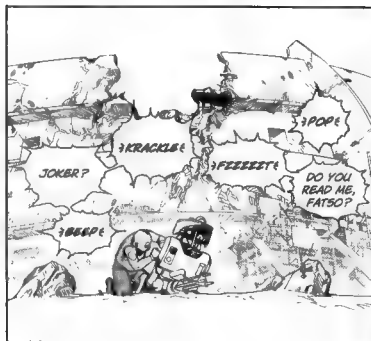
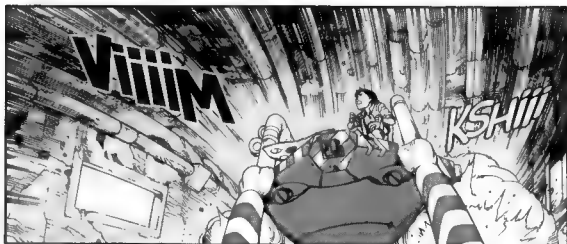


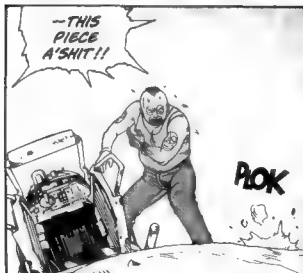




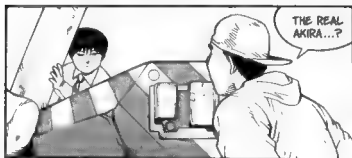


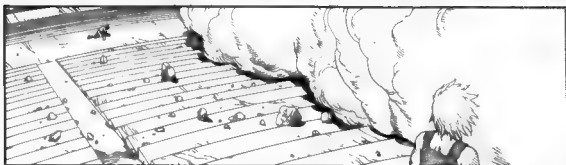
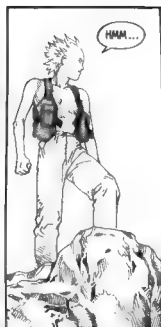
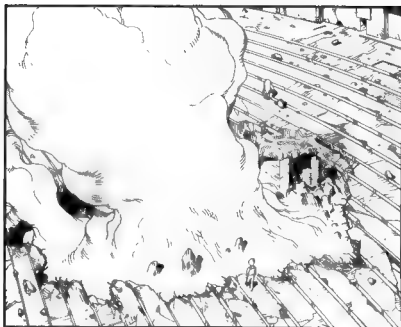


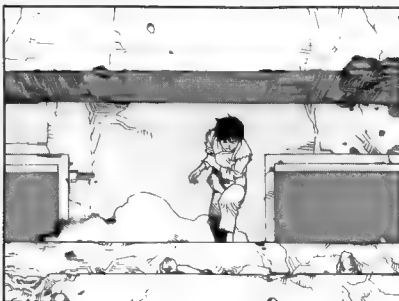


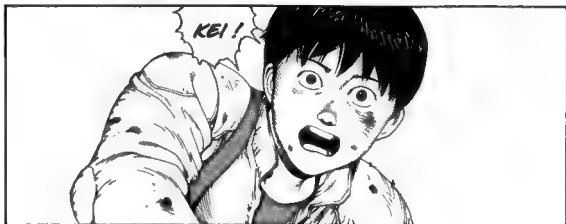


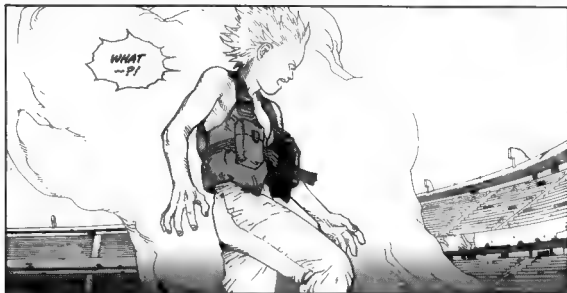
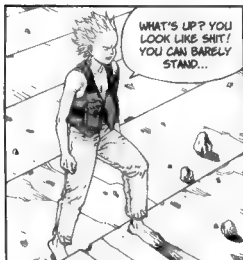




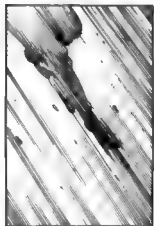
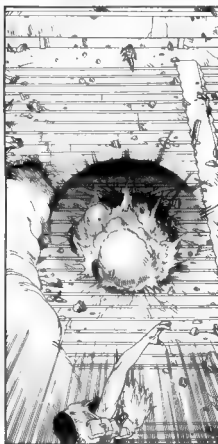


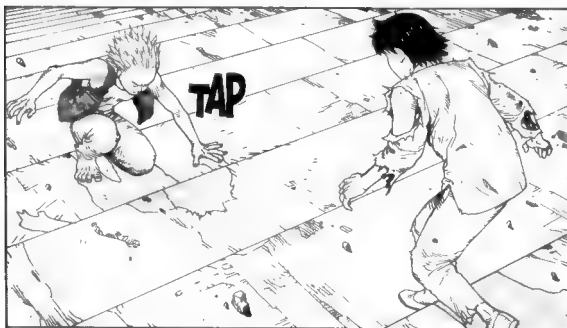


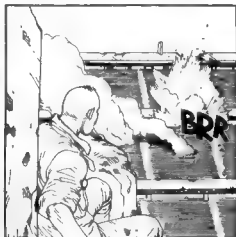


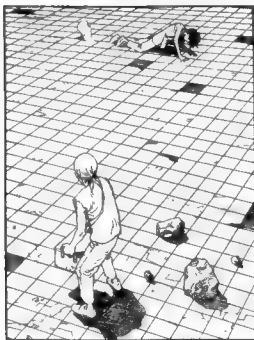
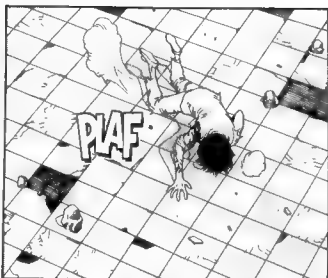
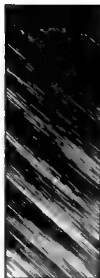


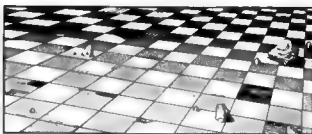
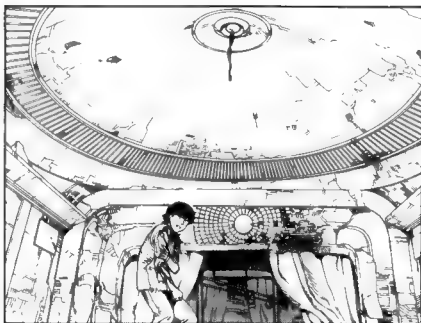




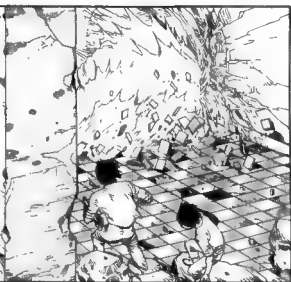




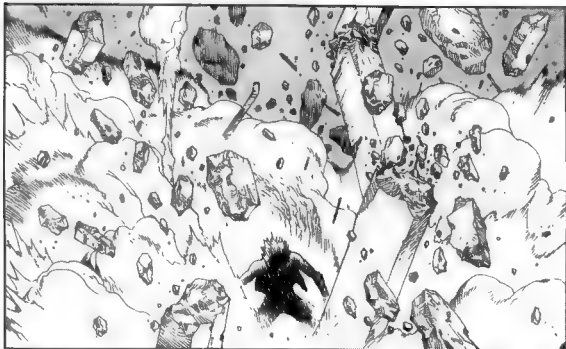
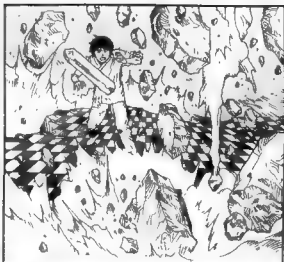




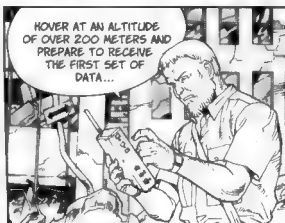
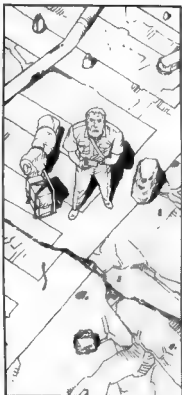
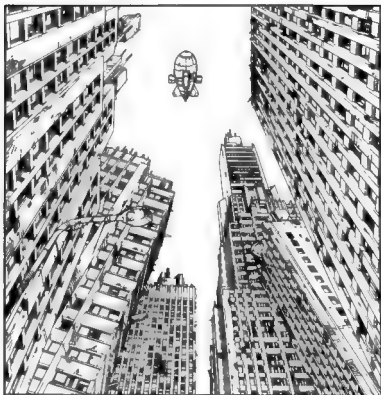


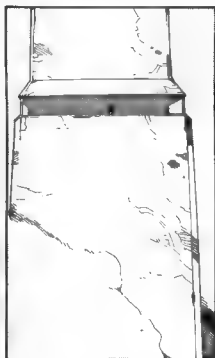
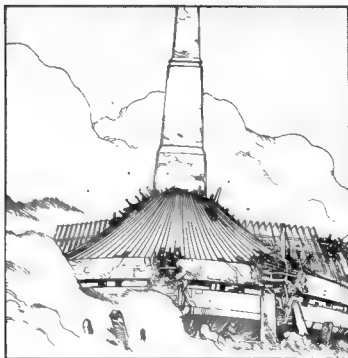
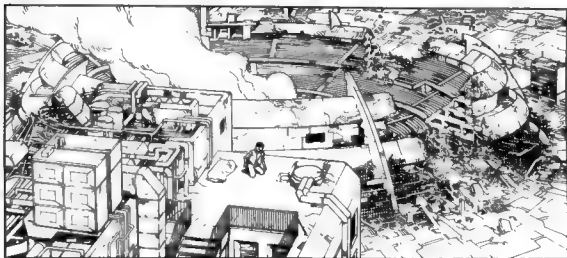


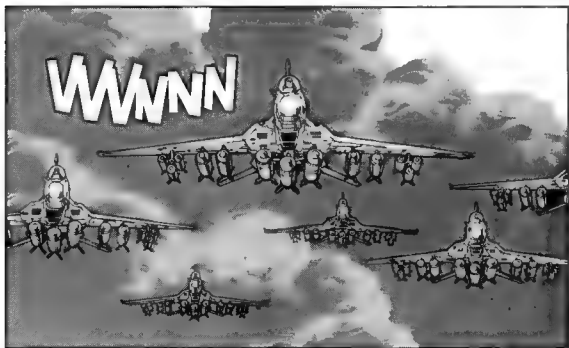
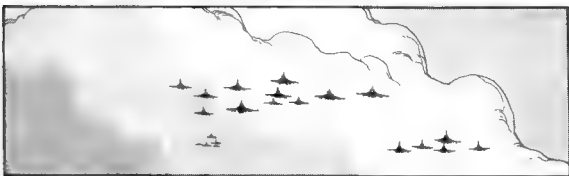


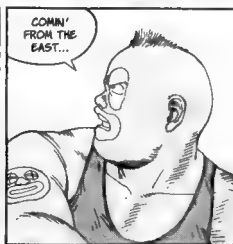
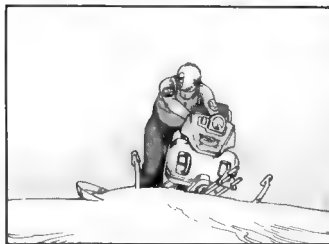


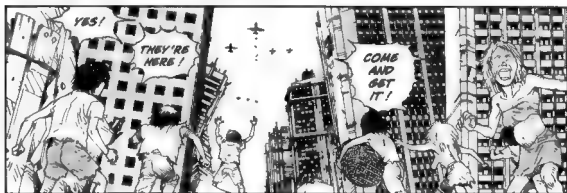
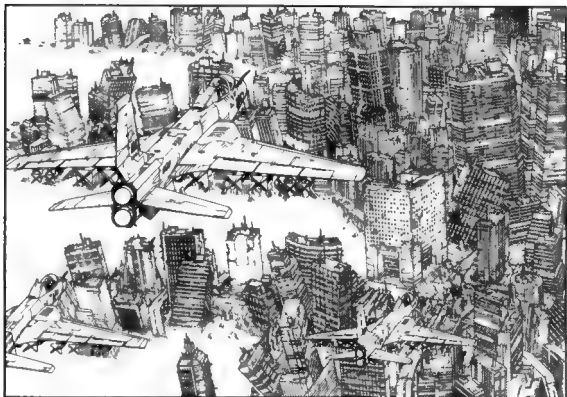


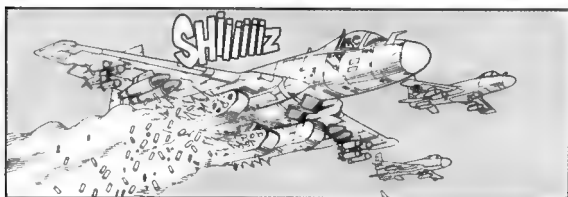
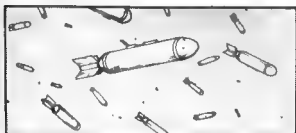


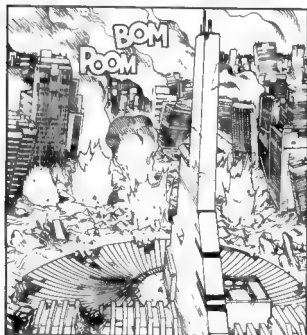


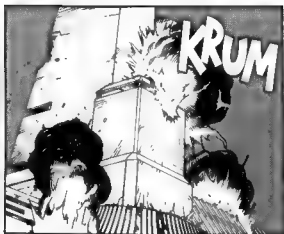


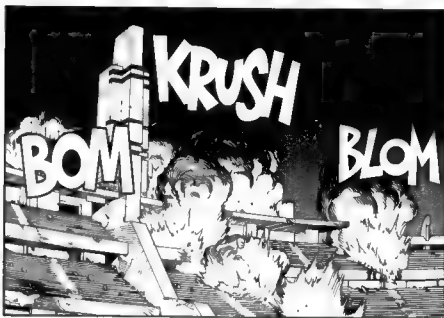






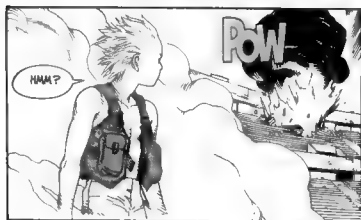
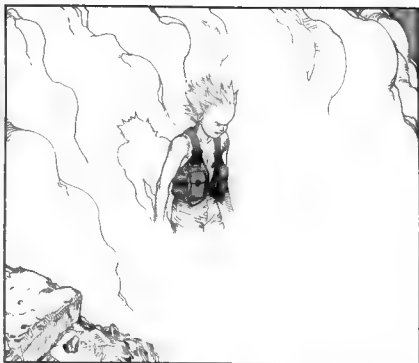


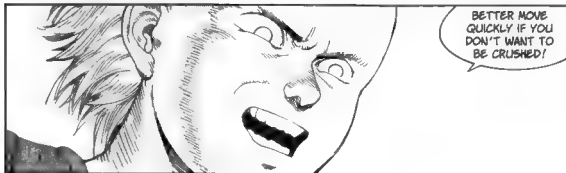
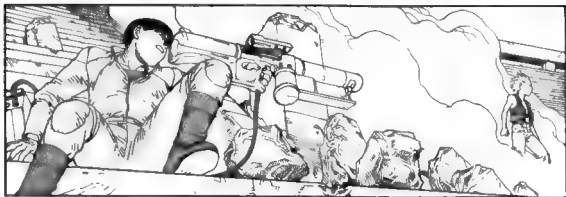




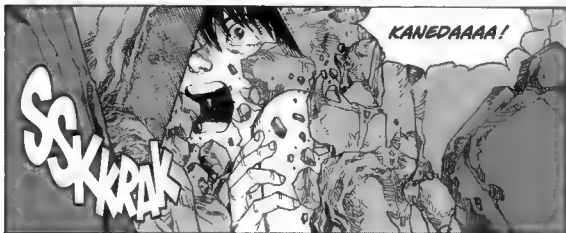






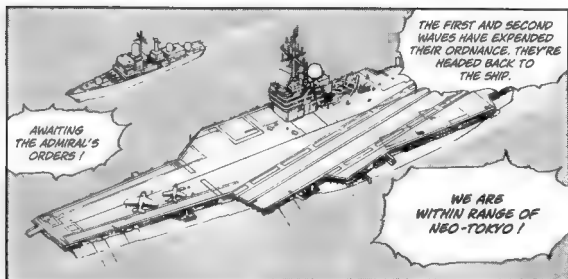


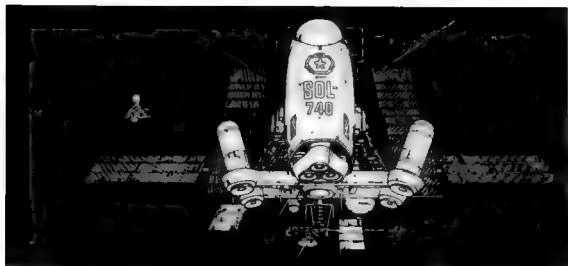


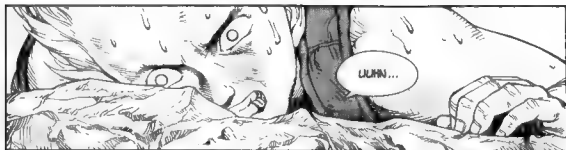


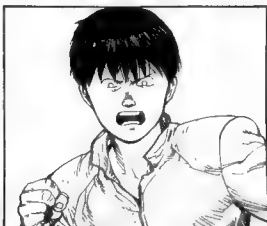




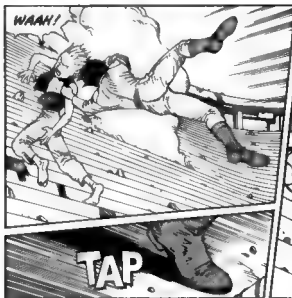












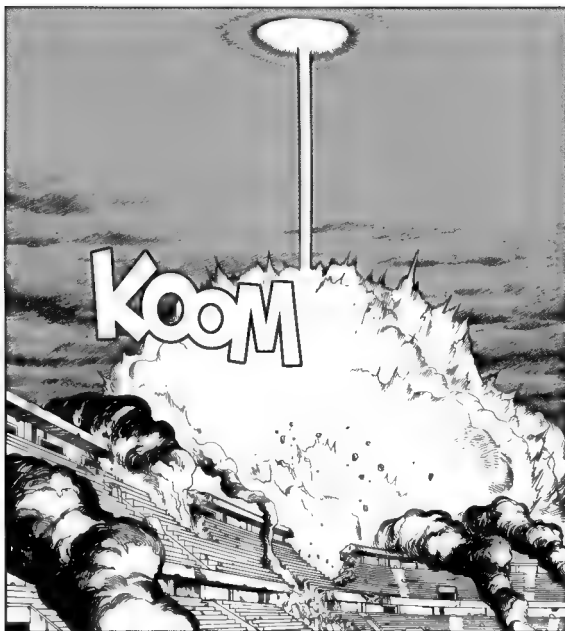


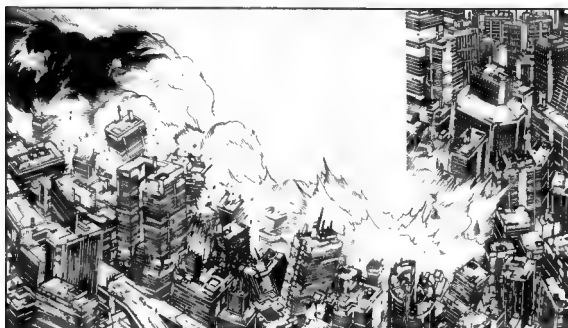




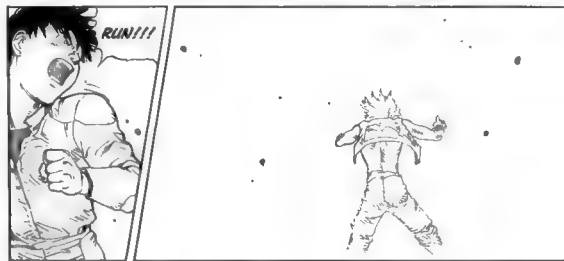
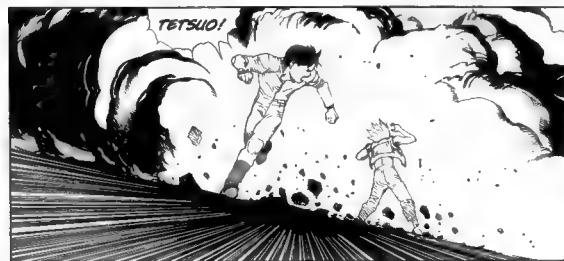


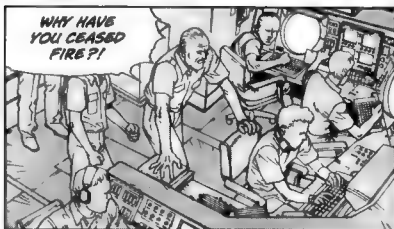
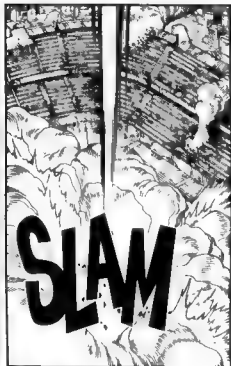
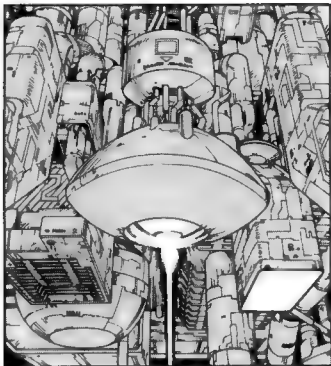




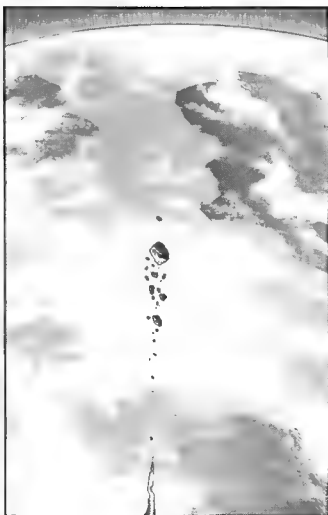


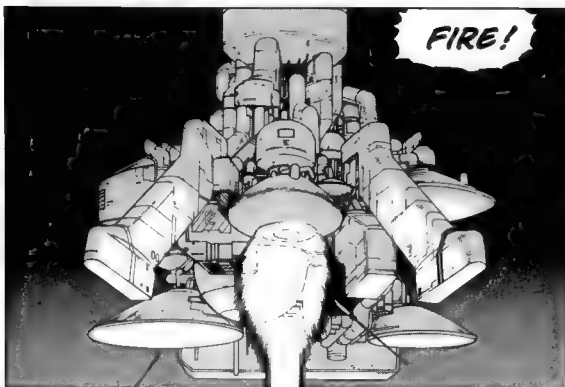


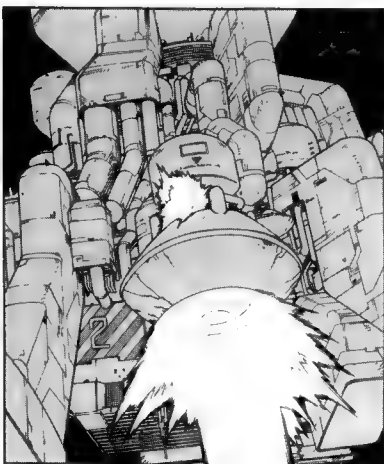
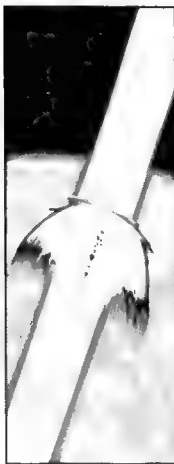


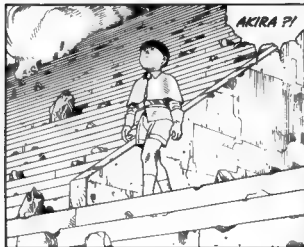
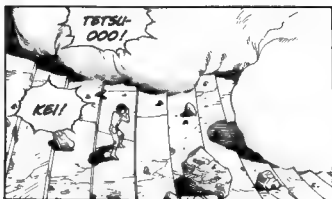
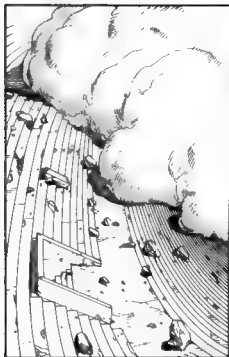




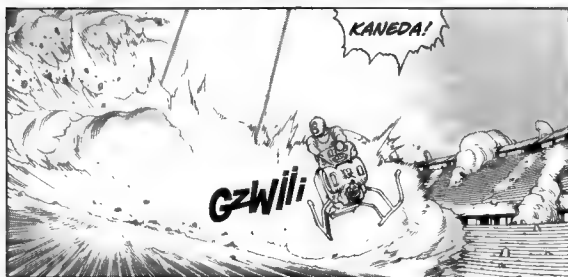




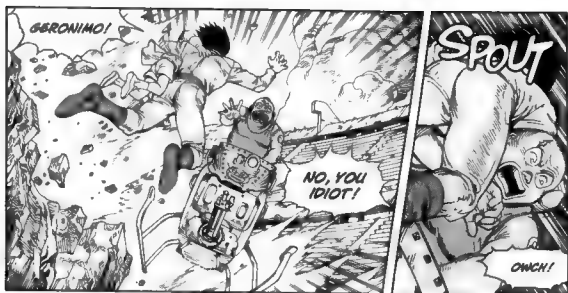


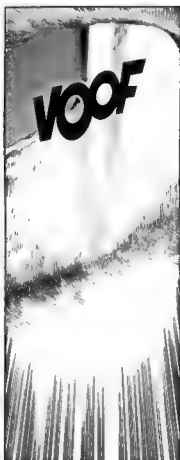


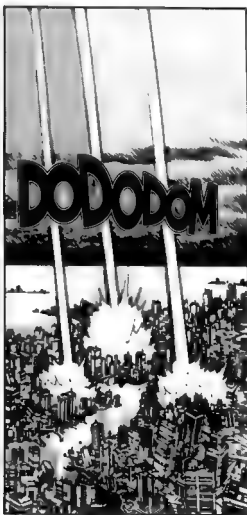
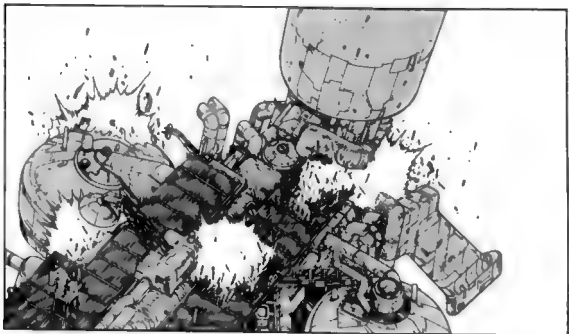


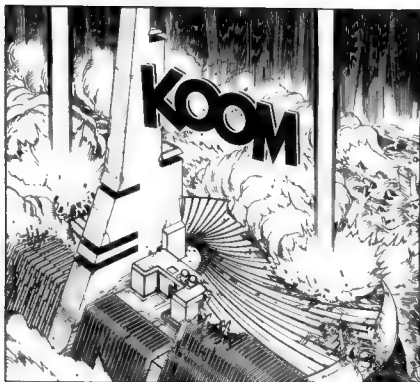


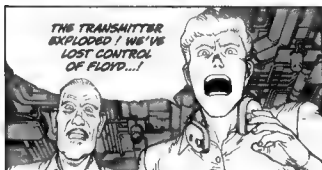
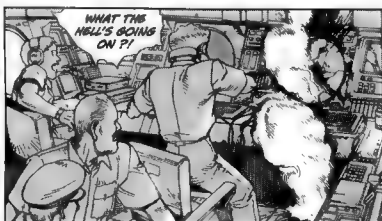


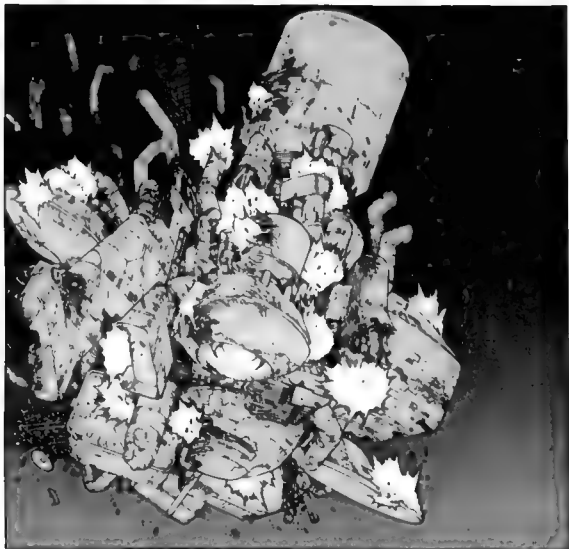




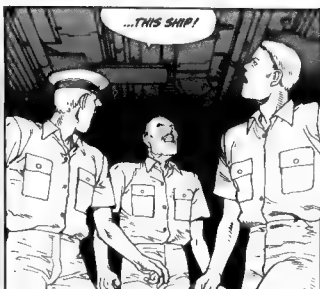


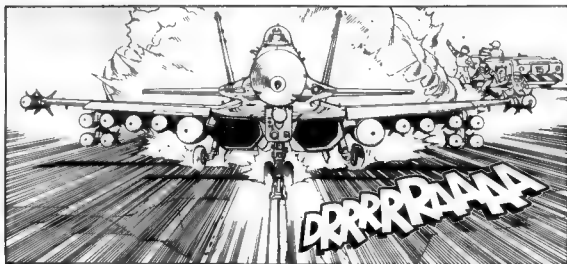
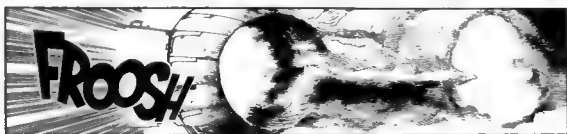
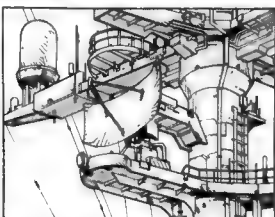
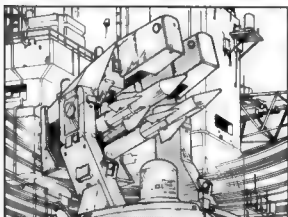


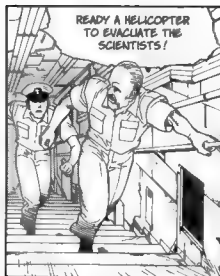


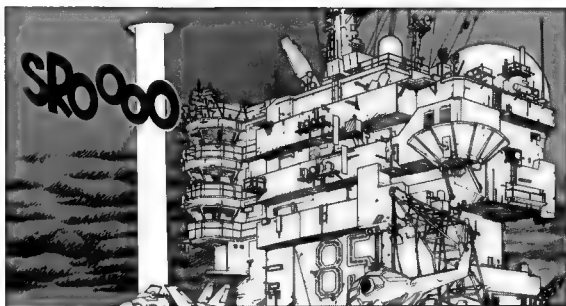
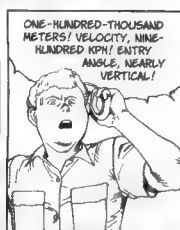


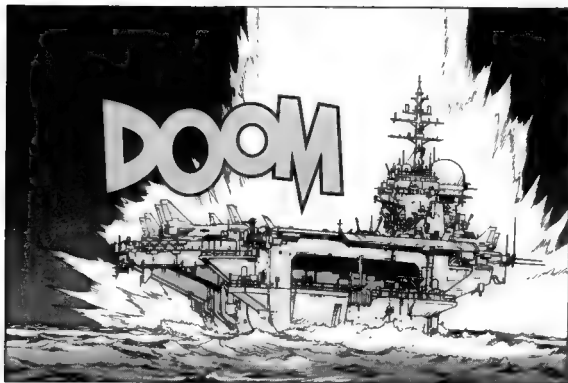


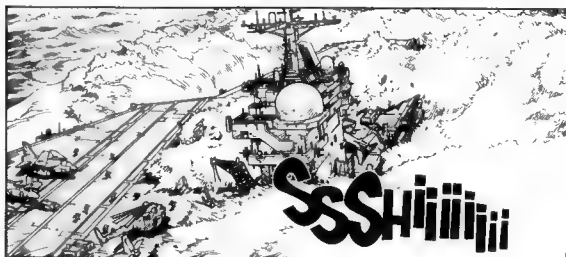
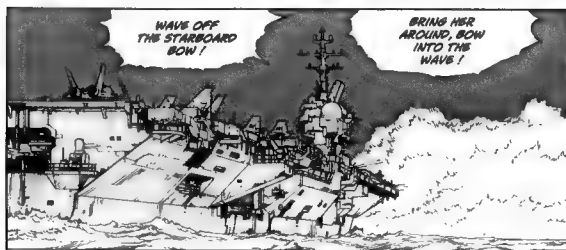
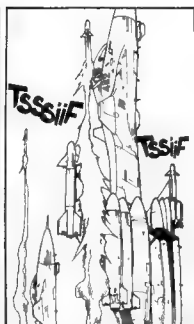
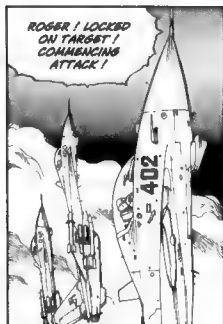


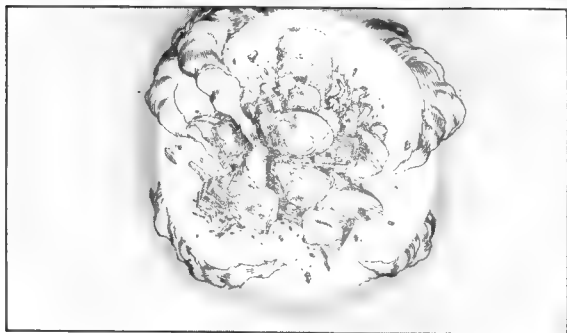
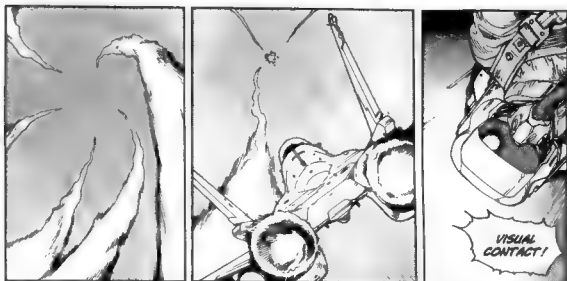


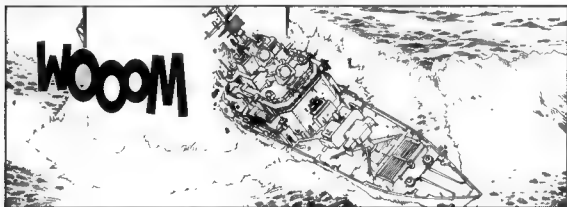
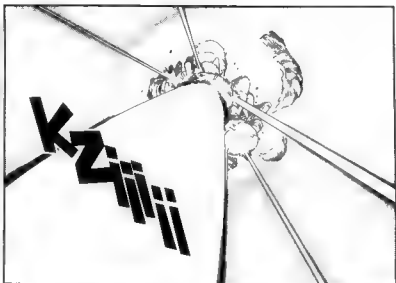
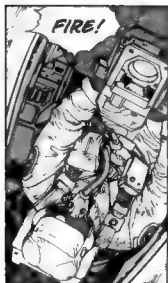


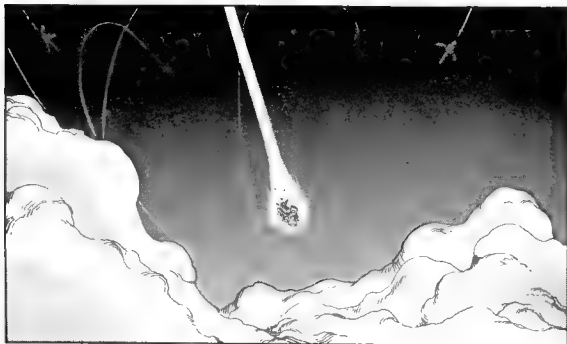


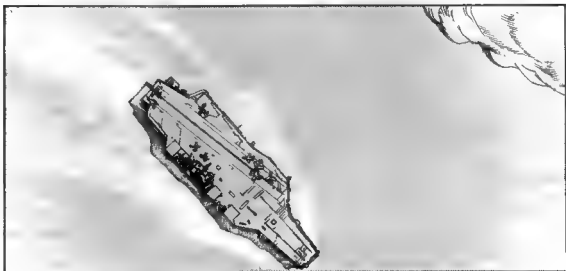


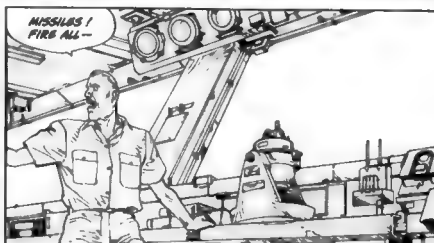
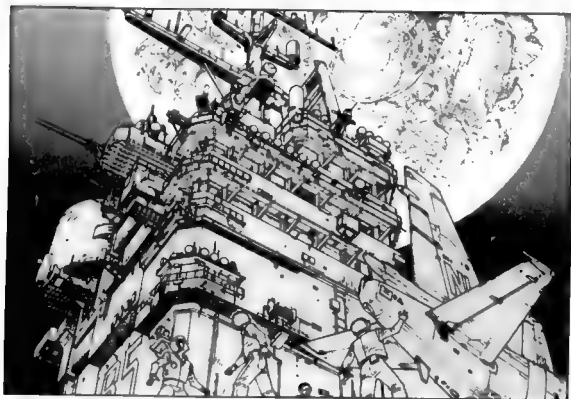
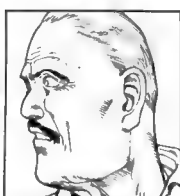




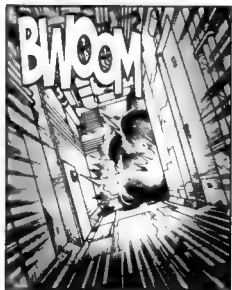
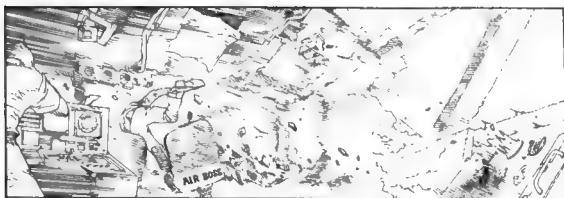
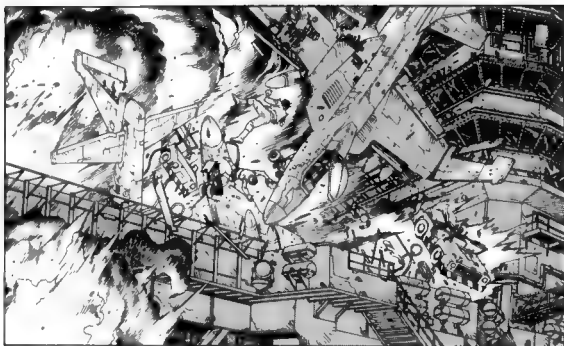


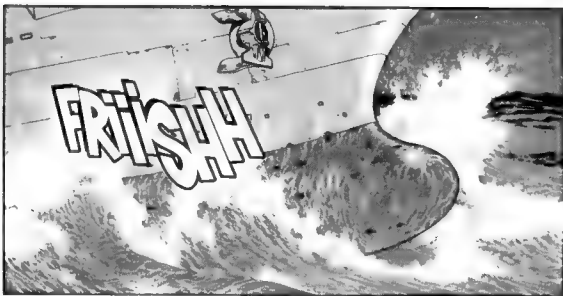






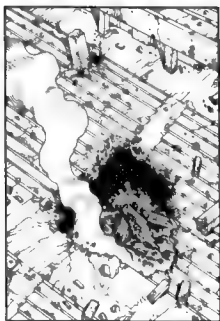


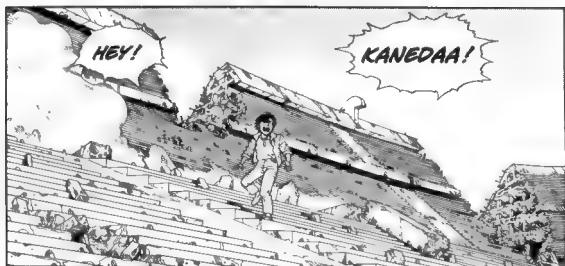












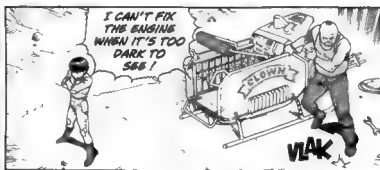




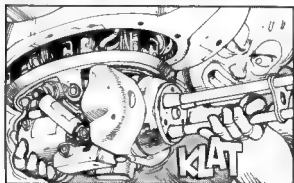


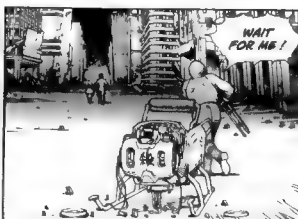
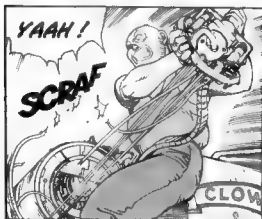
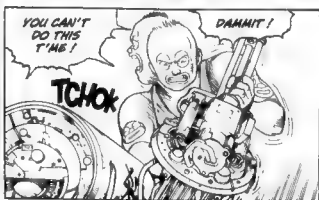


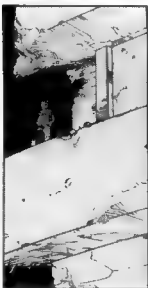
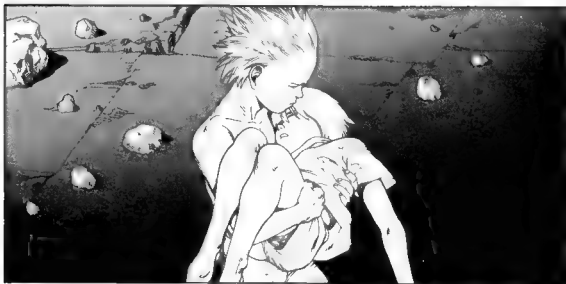


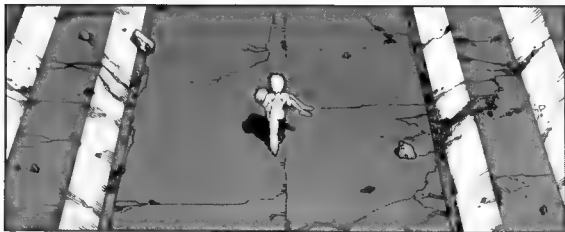


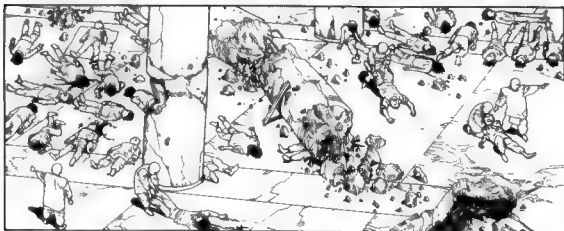
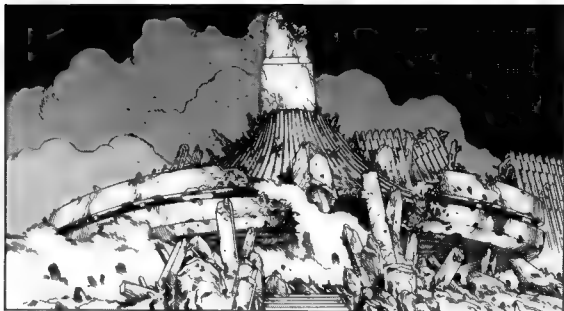


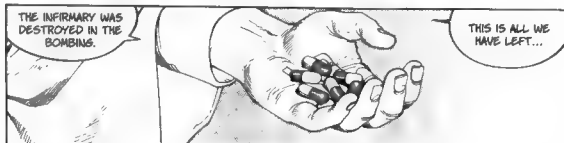
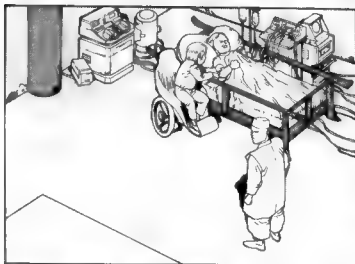


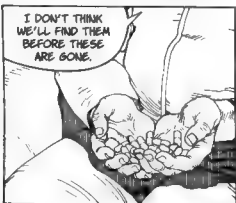








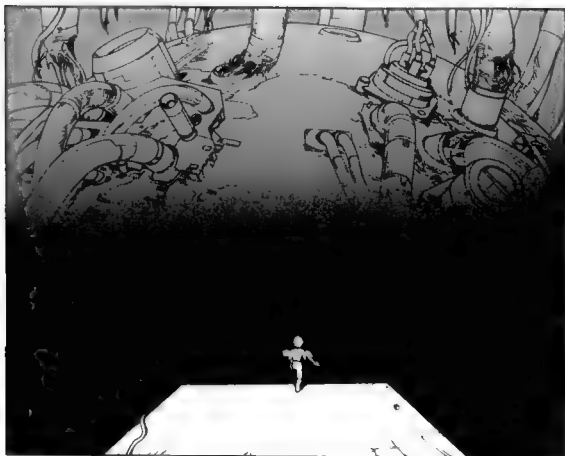
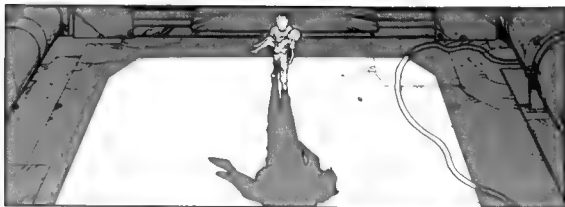








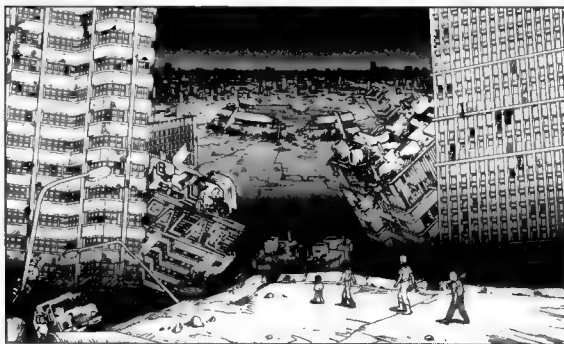
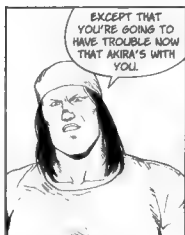


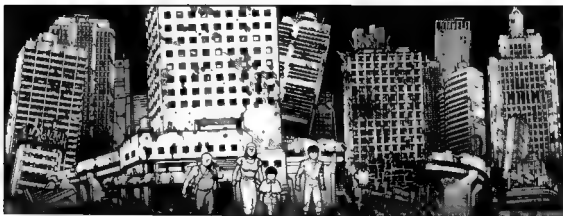


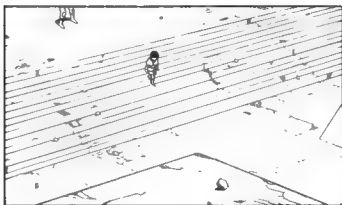


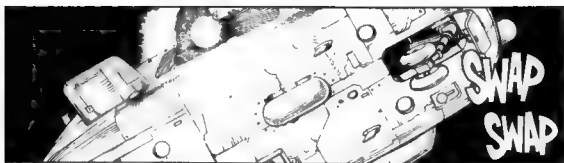


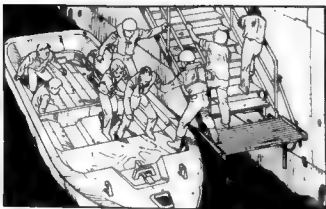


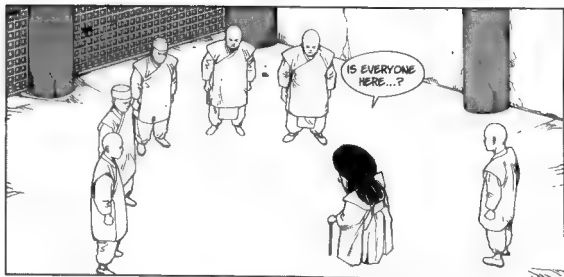


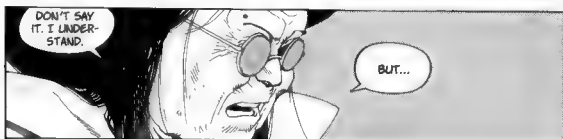


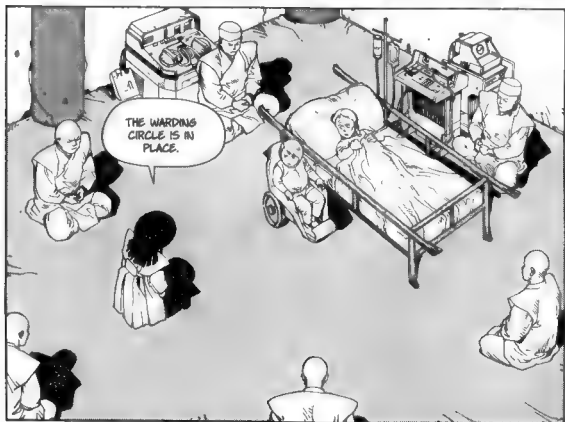
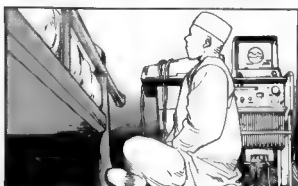
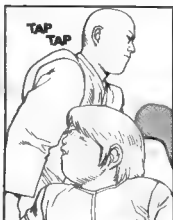


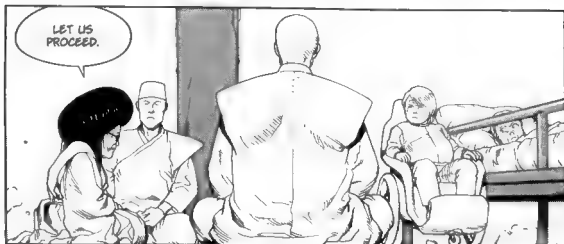


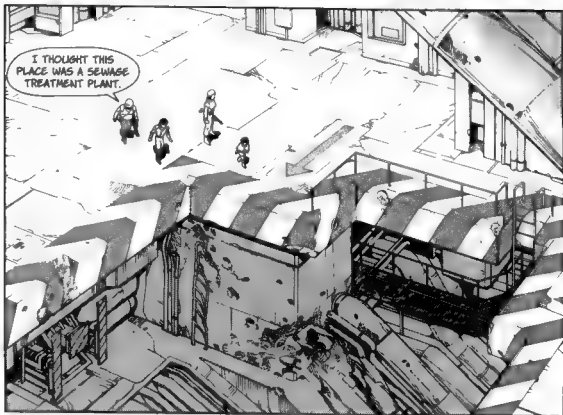
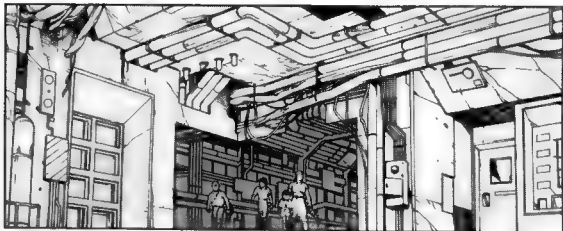
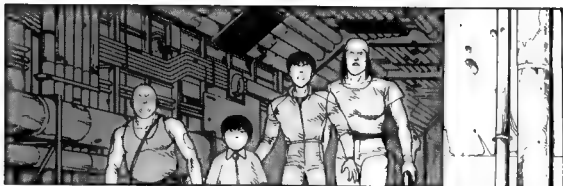


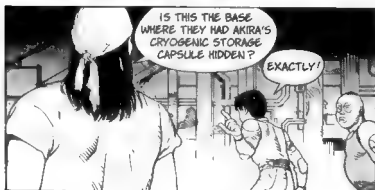
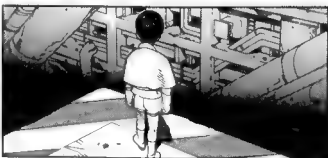
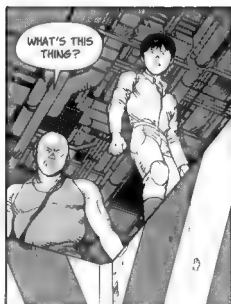


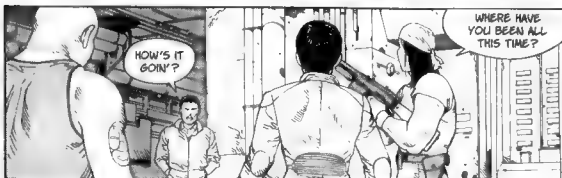




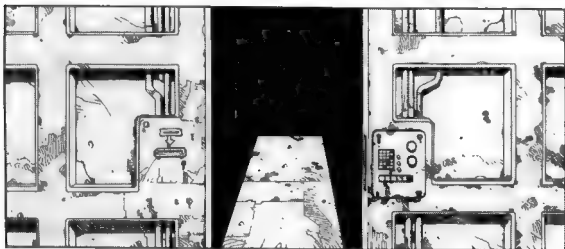
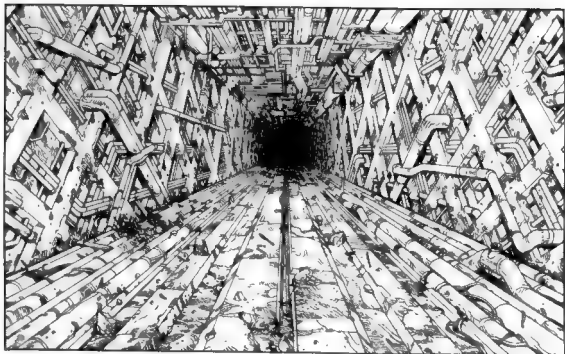


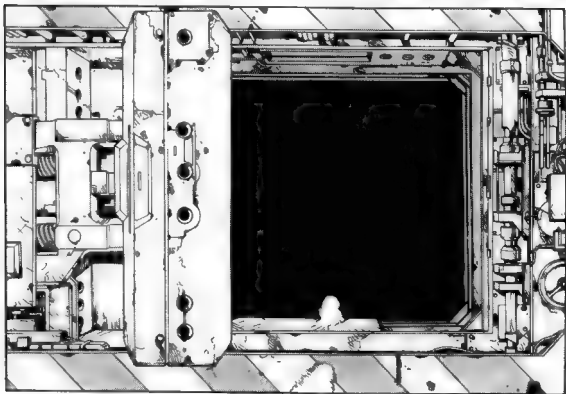
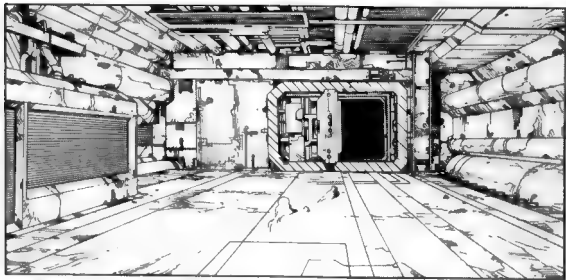
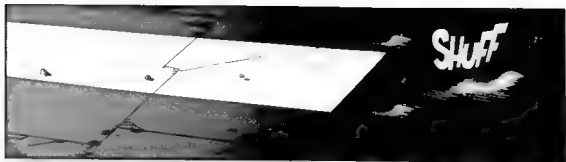




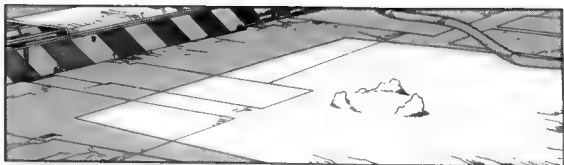






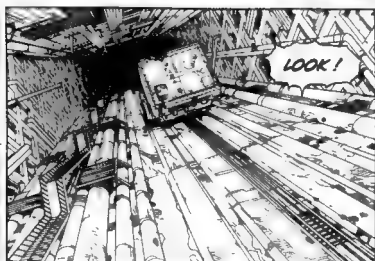
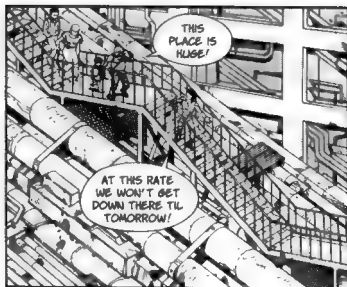


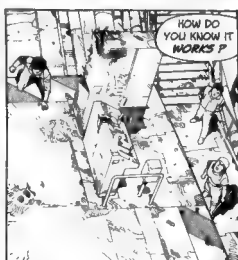
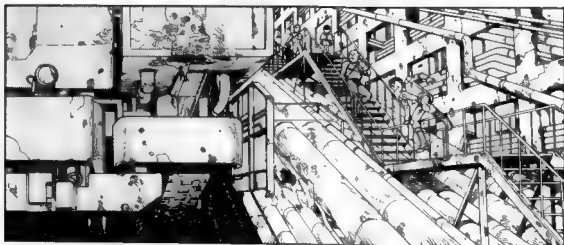


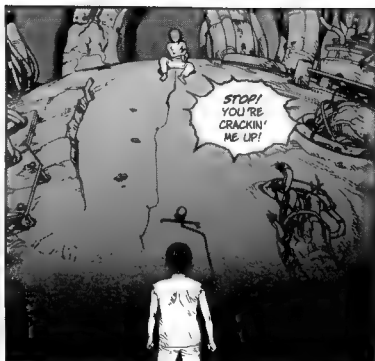




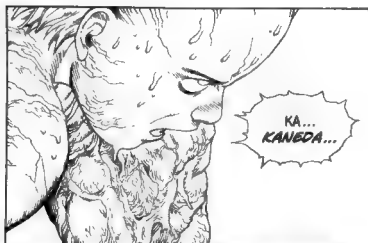


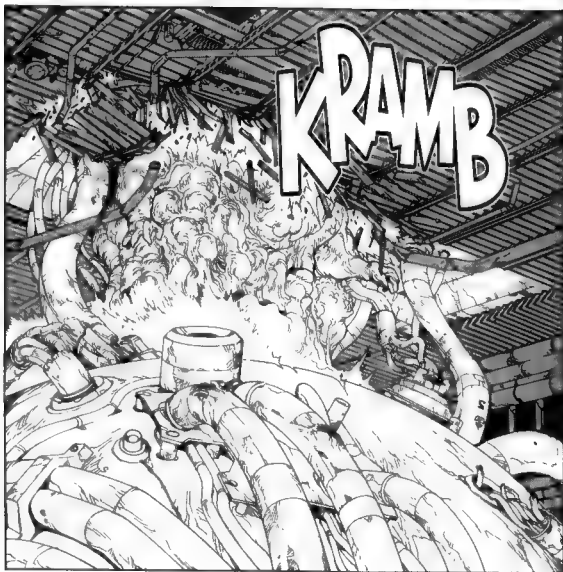


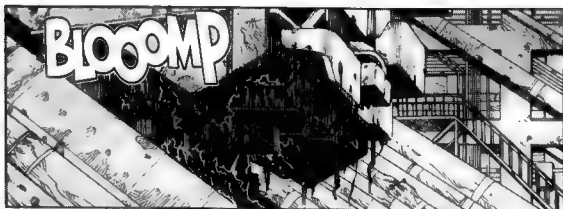


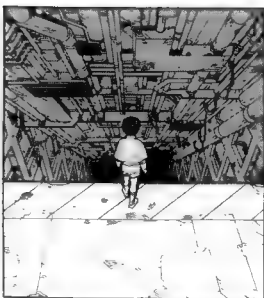




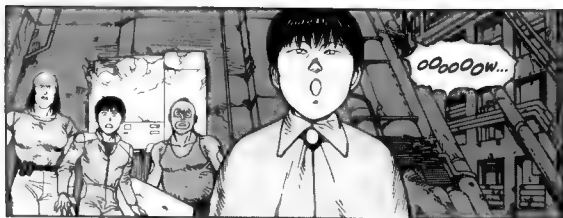






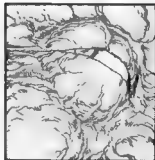


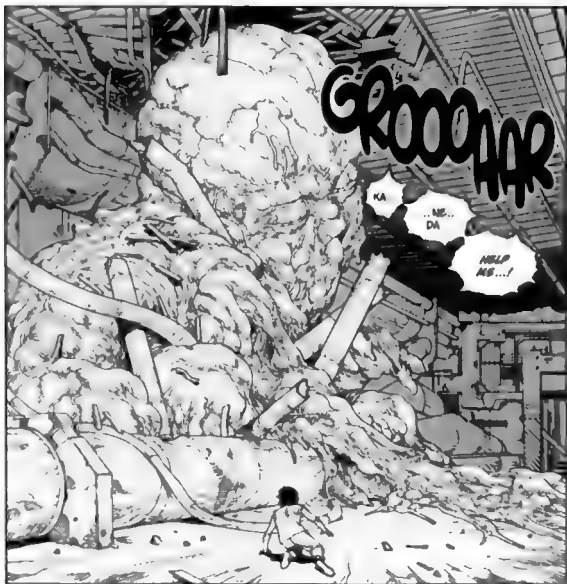


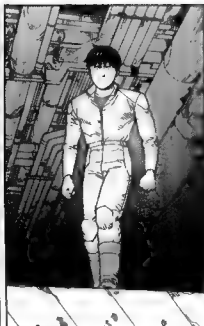




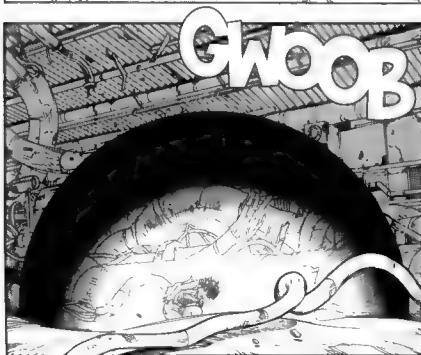




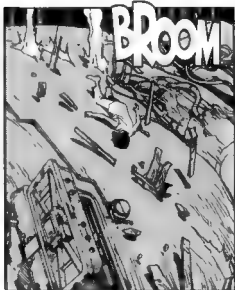


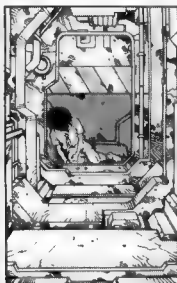
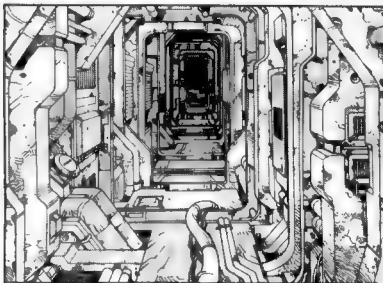
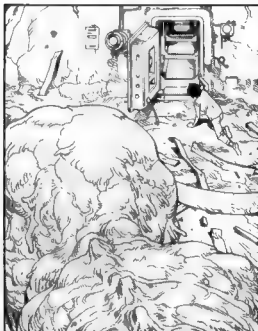


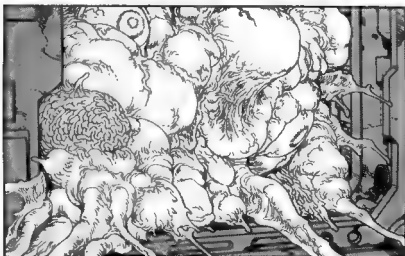


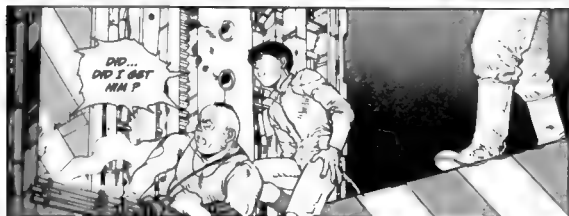
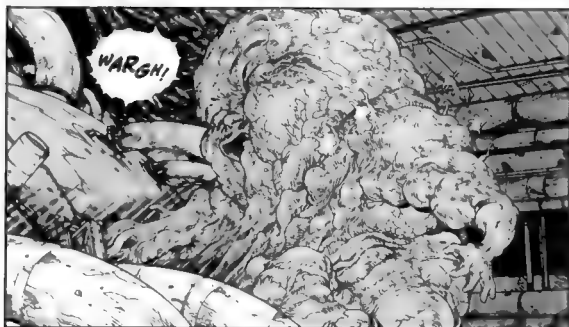




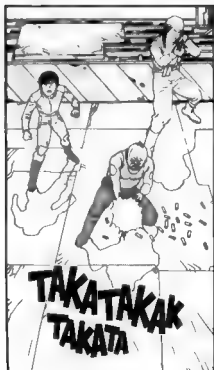


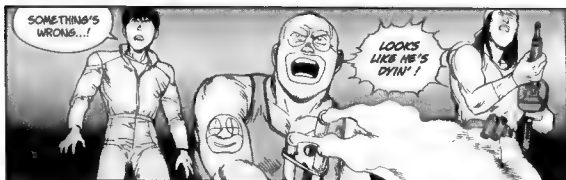




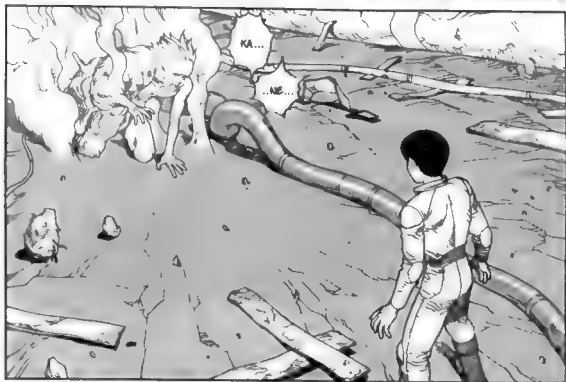


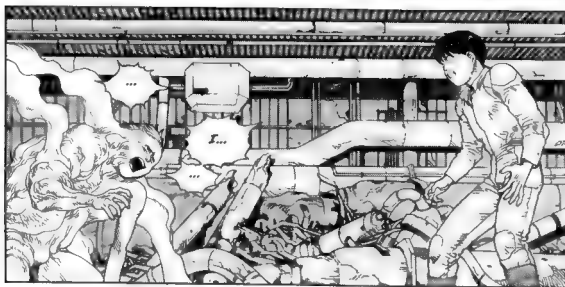






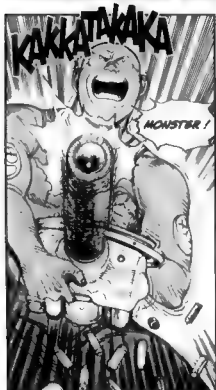


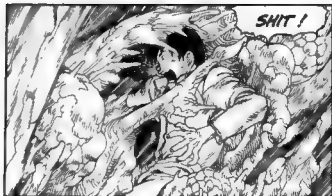




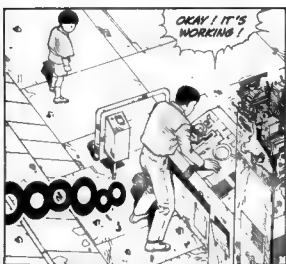




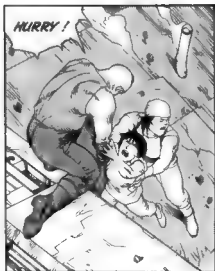


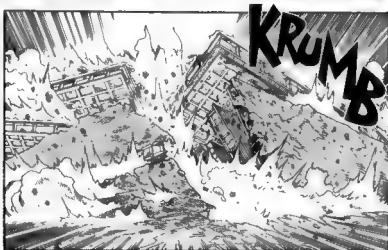


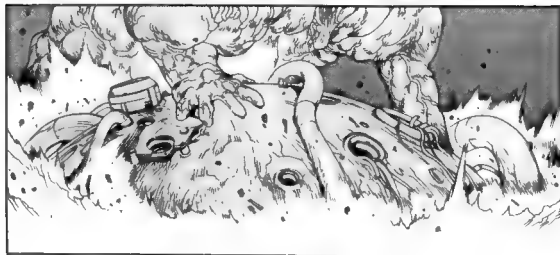
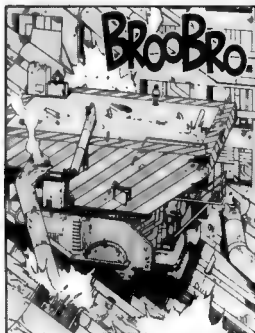
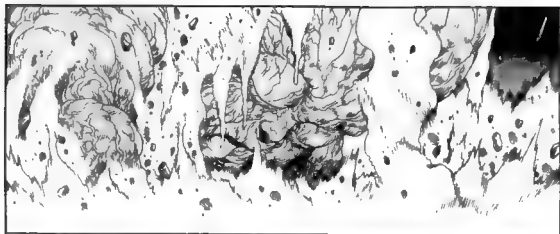


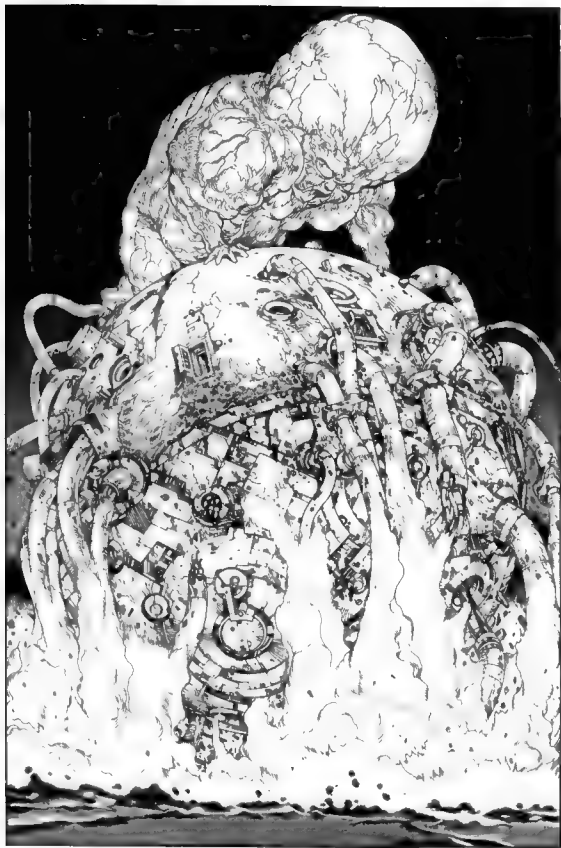




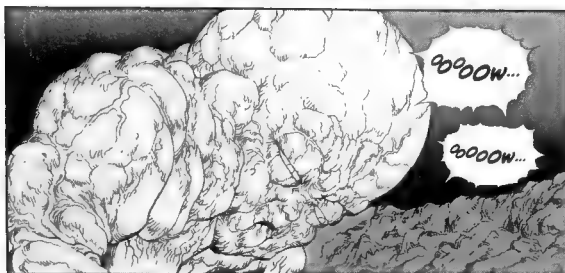
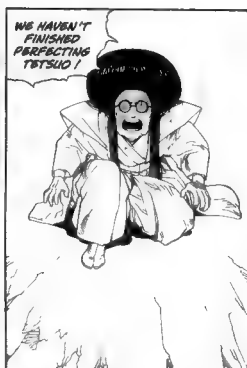


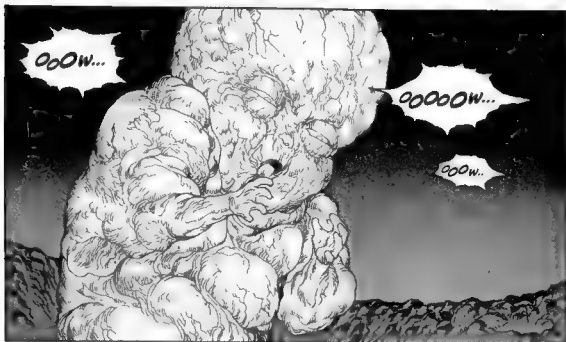


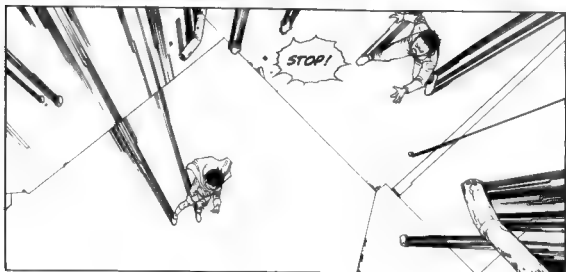
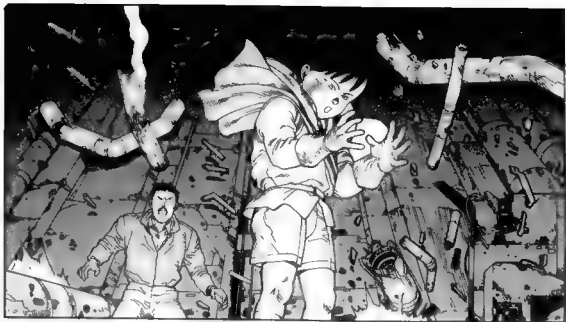


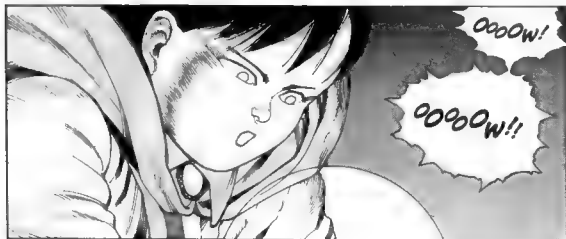
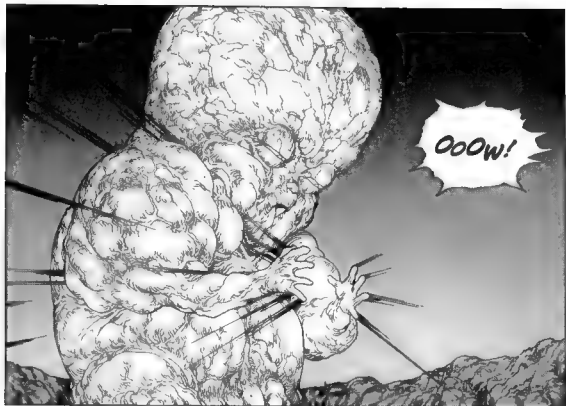






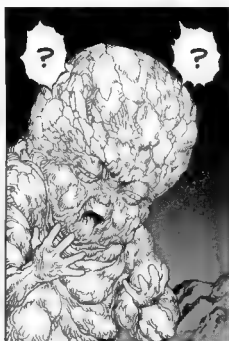
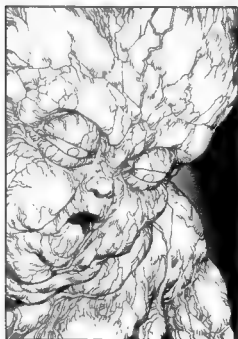


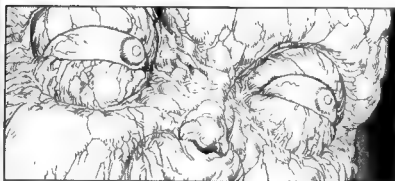


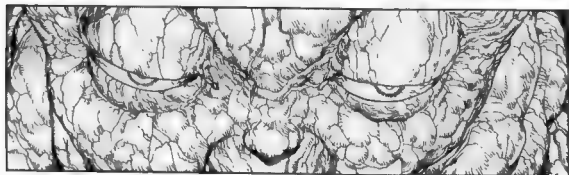
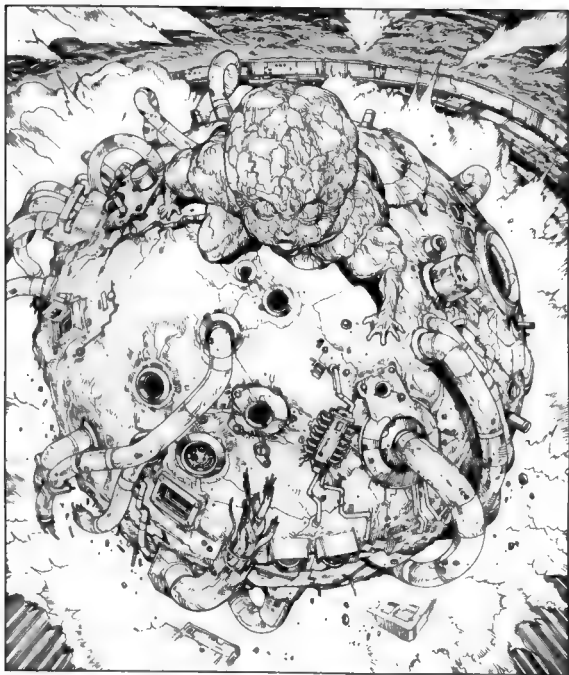


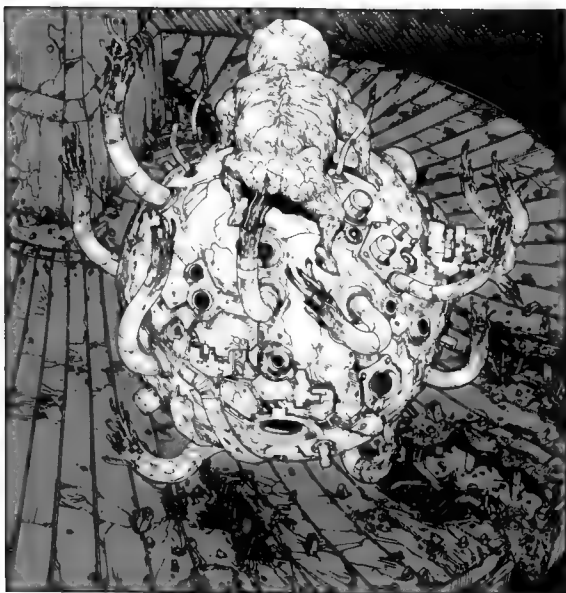
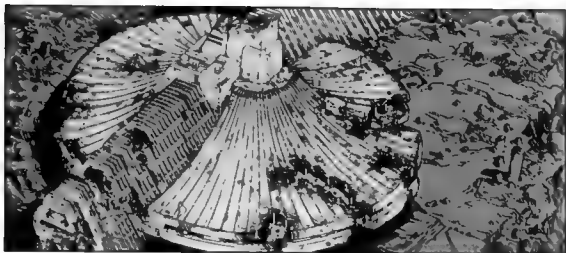




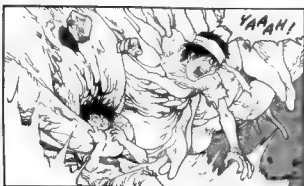
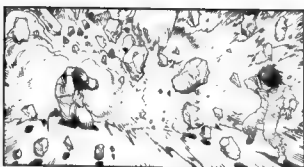










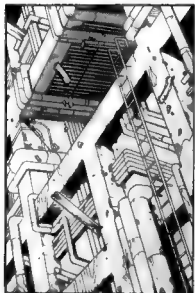


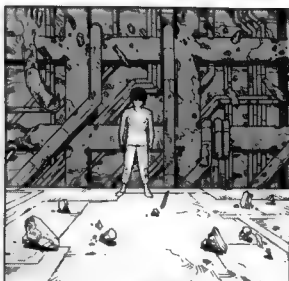
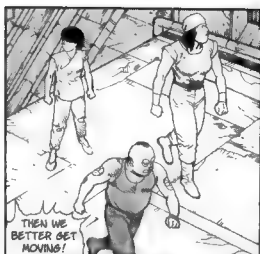


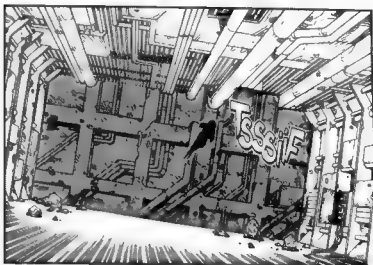


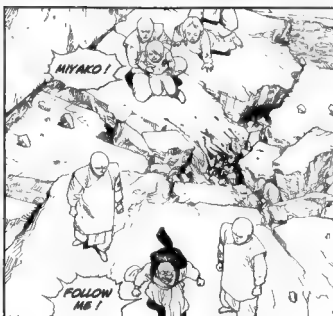
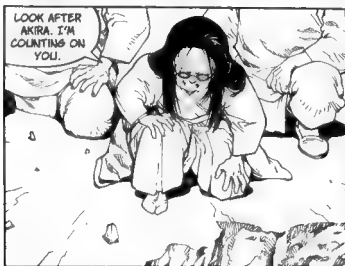




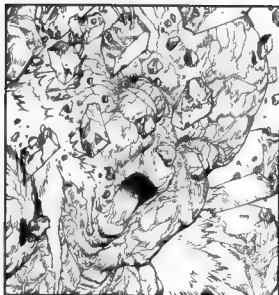




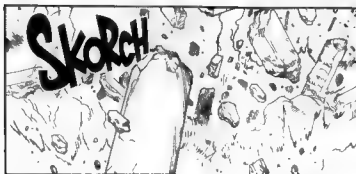
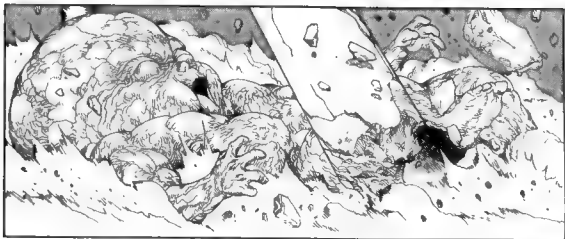












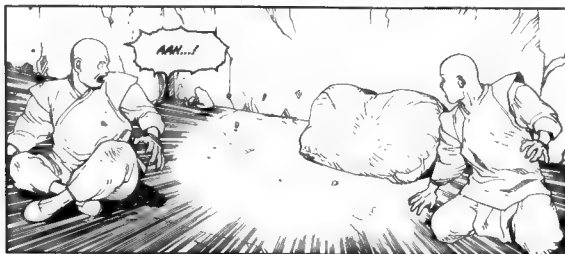
YET HURT SHALL
TURN TO ANGER, AND
THAT ANGER AND
HATE SHALL CRASH
UPON US!

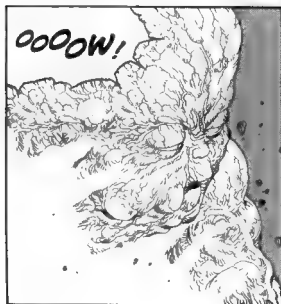
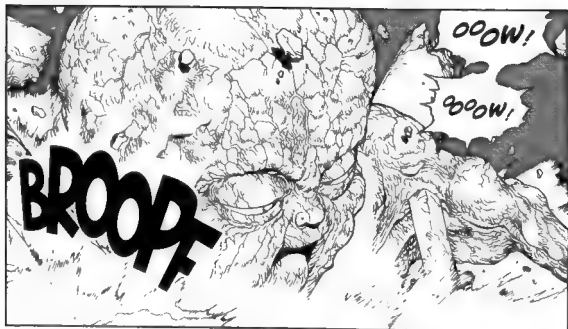


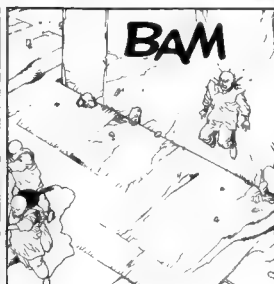
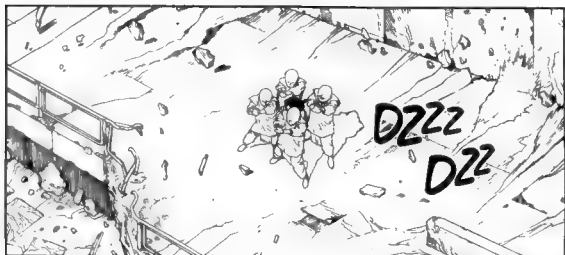
WE MUST ENDURE
IT! FEED HIS
ANGER! FORCE
HIS POWER TO
ITS APEX!



HE CAME
EXPECTING FRIENDS,
AND GOT SLAPPED
INSTEAD. HOW HURT
HE MUST BE...

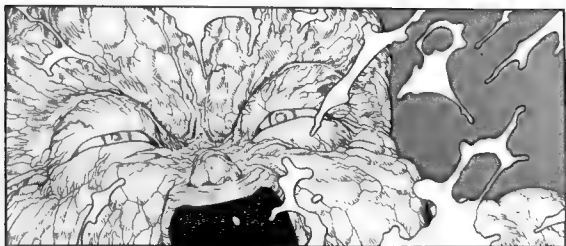


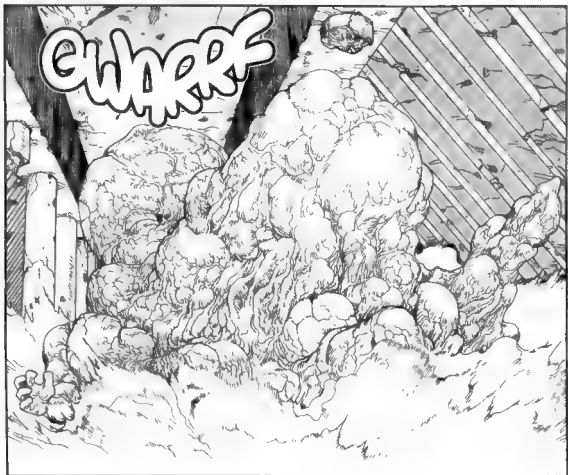
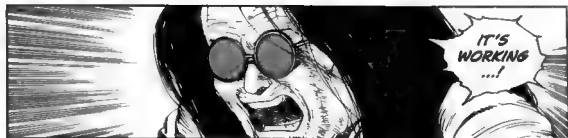




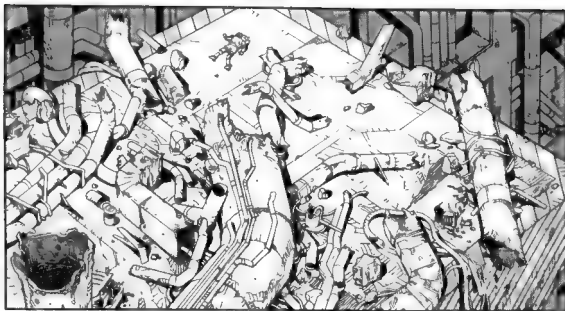
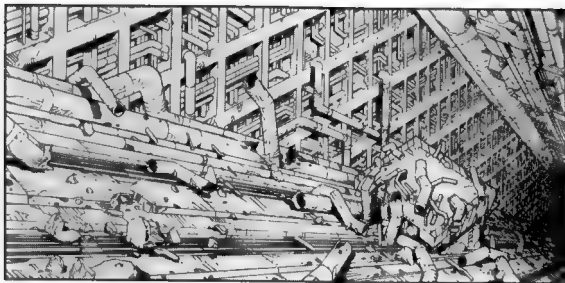


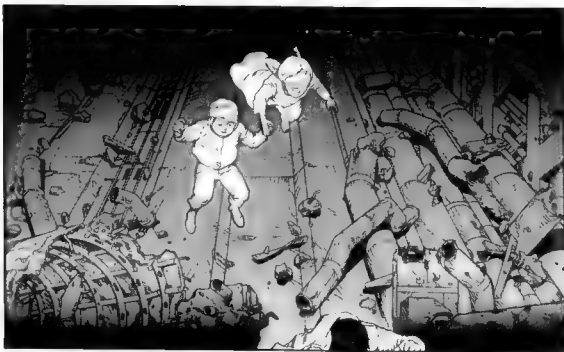
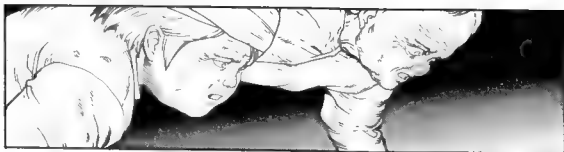




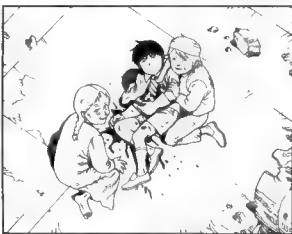
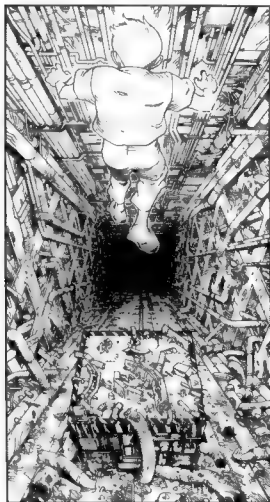






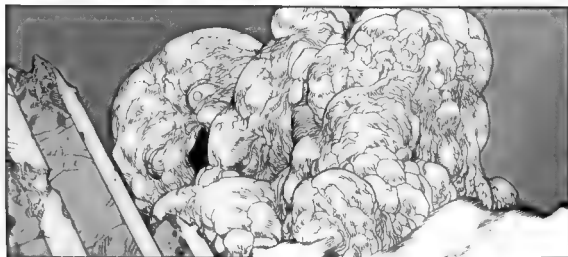
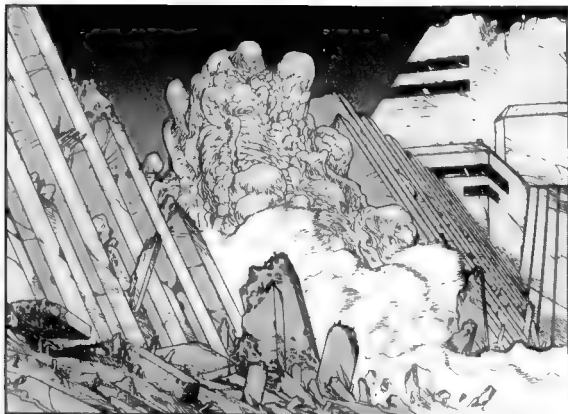










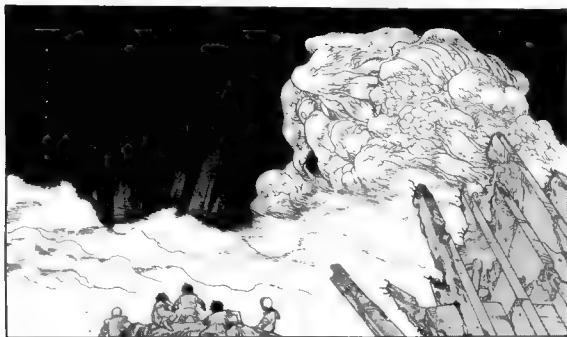


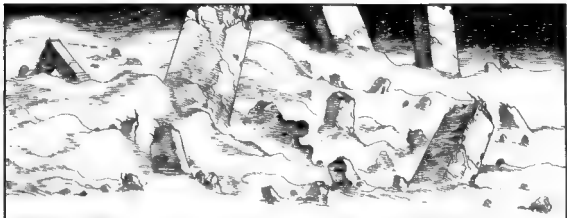


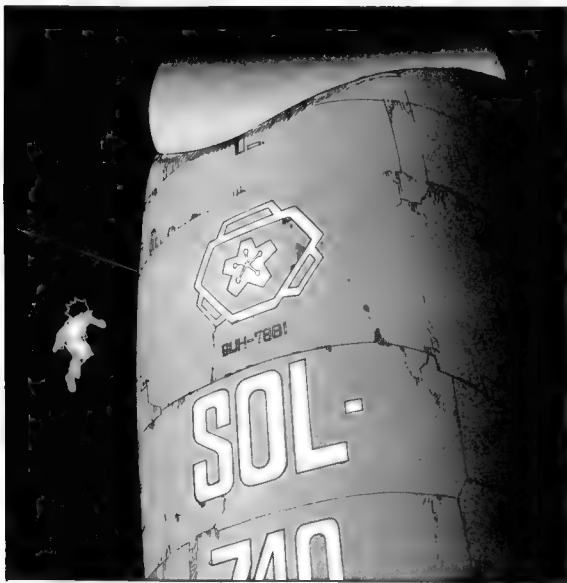


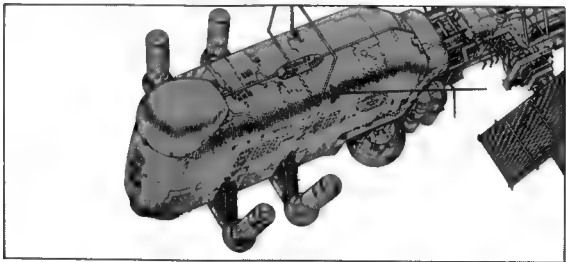
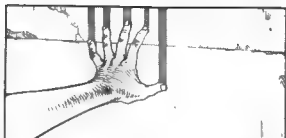
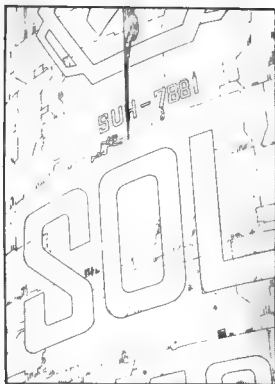


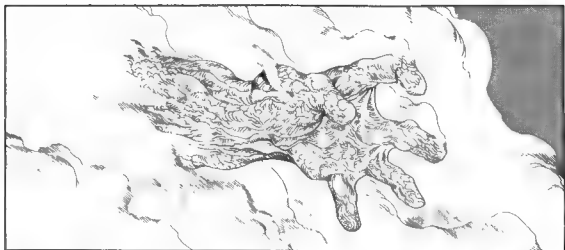


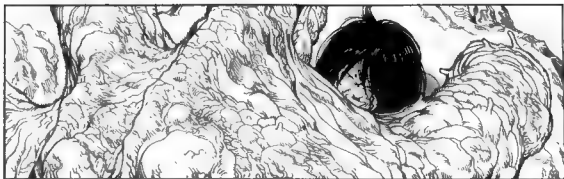






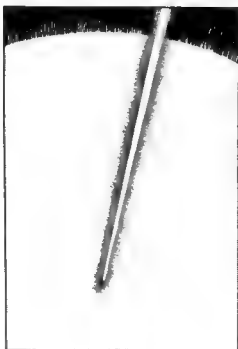
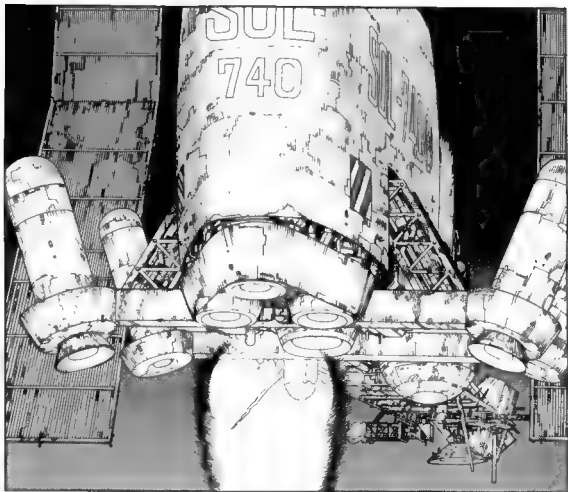






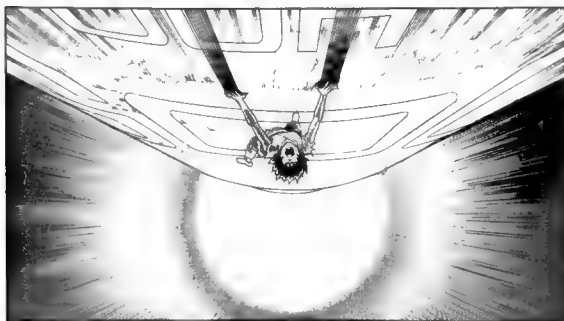
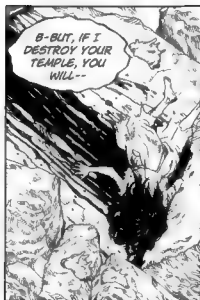


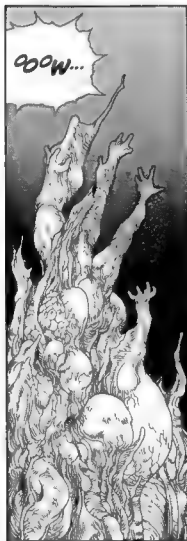


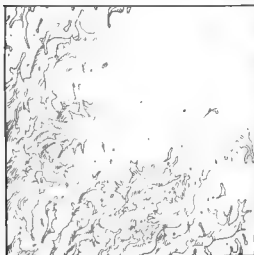


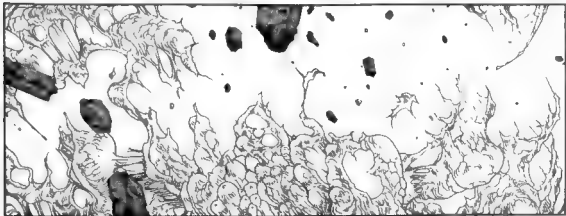
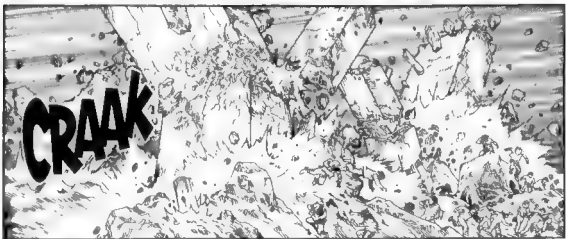


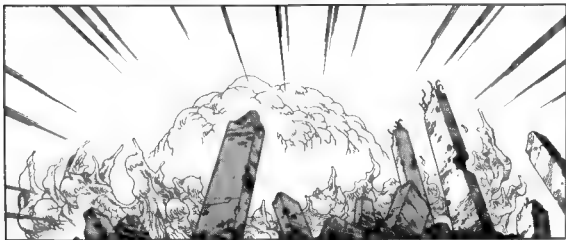
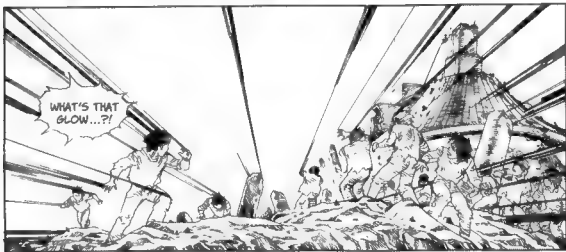
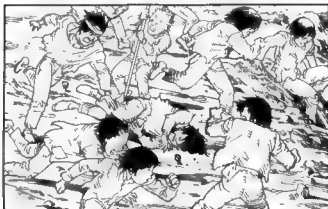


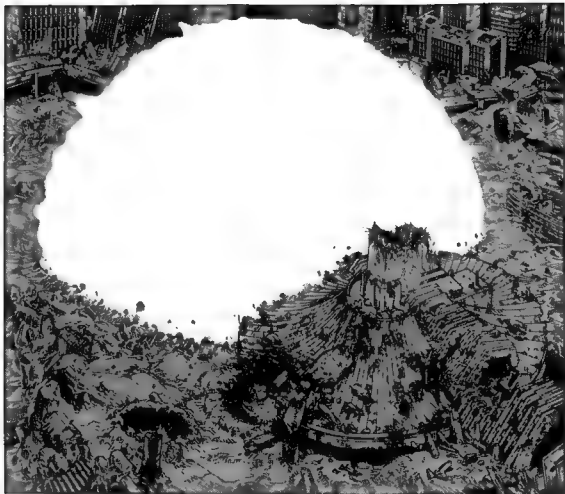




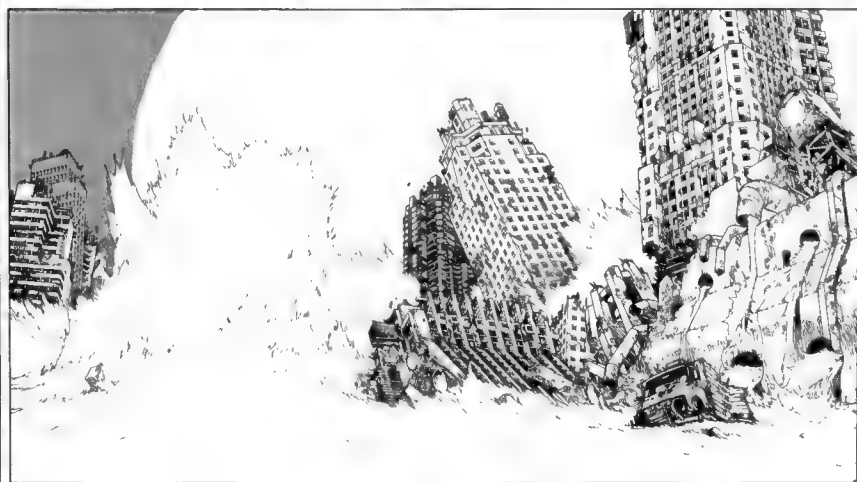




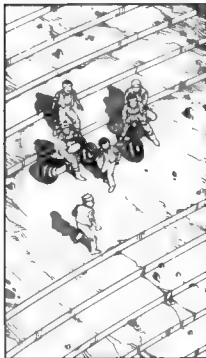


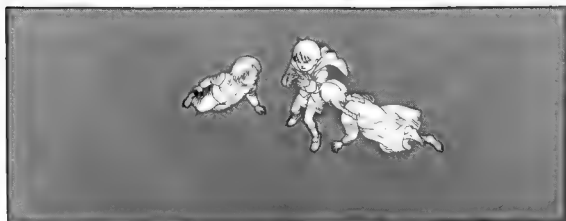


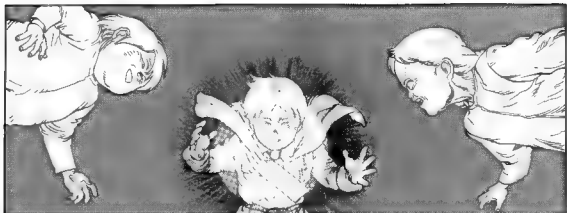


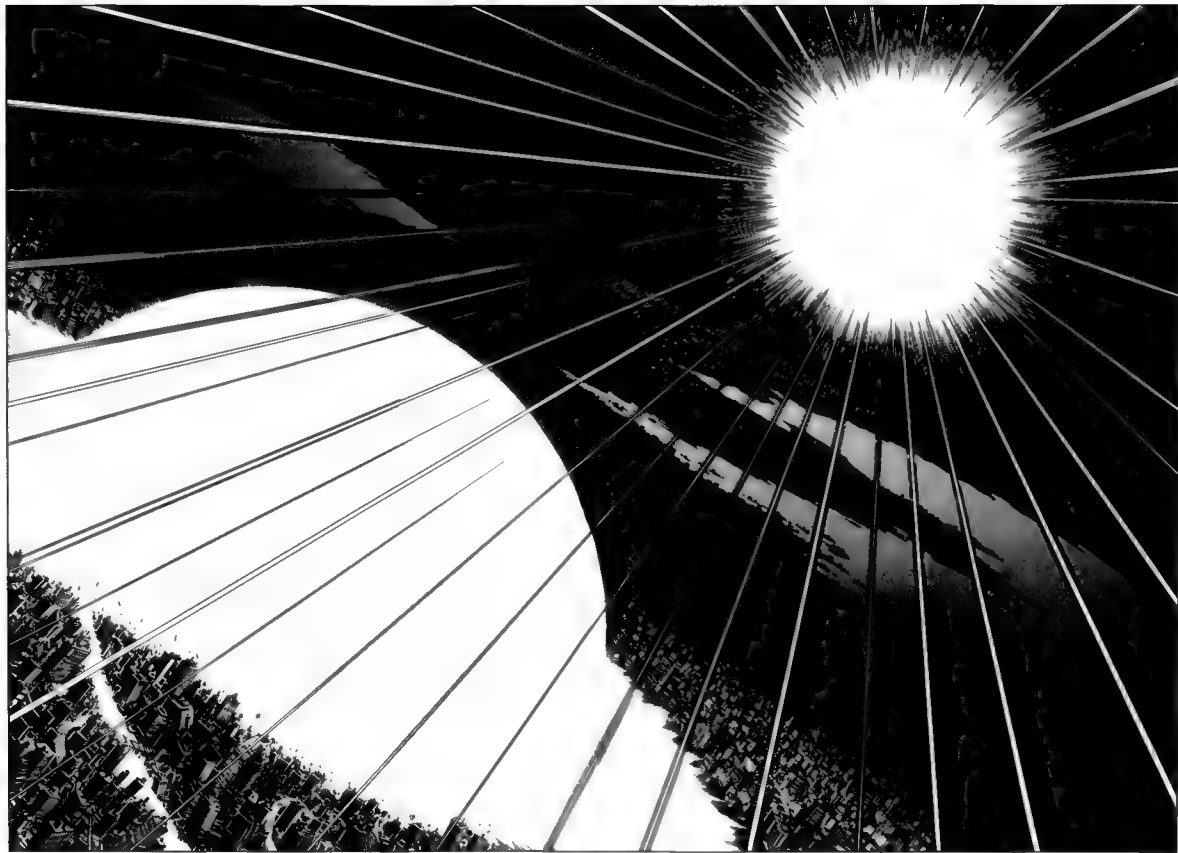




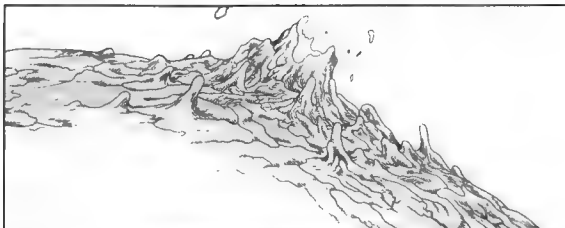




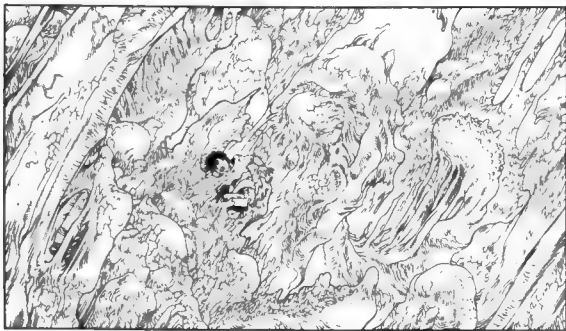
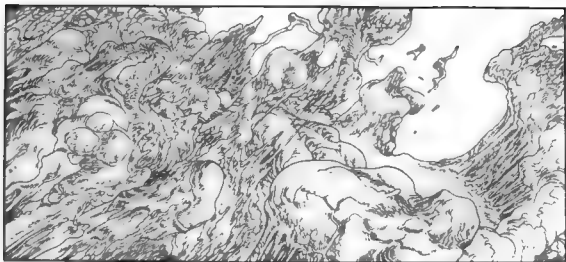




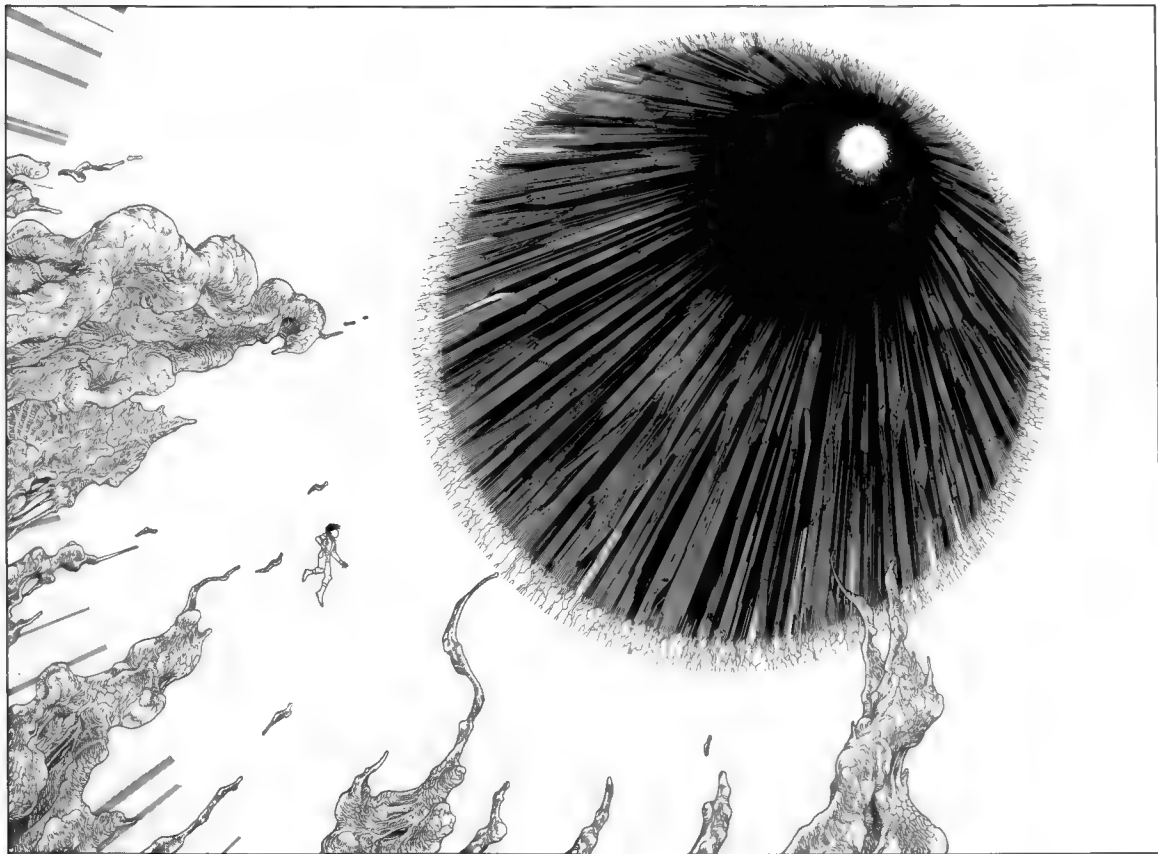


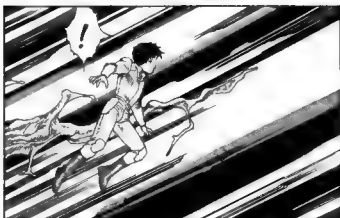
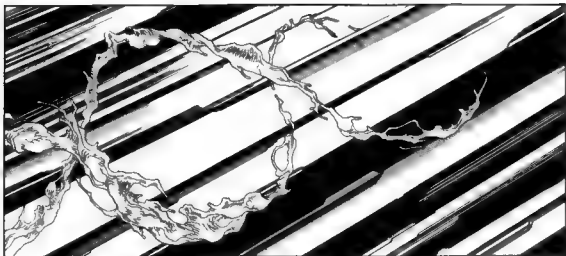
















TETSUO!

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?!

CAN YOU HEAR ME...?

KO-RO!

THAT MONSTER'S BEHIND ALL OF THIS...

RIGHT!

IF THAT'S WHO IT WAS...

HE MAY HAVE BEEN TRYING TO ESCAPE THE RESTRAINTS YOU PLACED ON HIM.

YOUR BODY IS NO LONGER ENOUGH TO SUSTAIN IT, SO IT SEEMS TO ABSORB THE OBJECTS AROUND YOU SO THAT IT CAN CONTINUE TO GROW!

KEI... WASN'T IT?

THE... THE MOON?

I'M NOT ALONE.

COME ON AND TRY IT, ASS-HOLES!

WHY DID YOU --?

WHAT --?!

KAORI... HAS JUST... FALLEN ASLEEP...

HURRY!

...I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!

THIS IS THE TIME...

KA... ME... DA...

TETSUO... IS IT... IS IT YOU...?

I GOT MY ARM BACK.

LOOK...

A DREAM.

DID YOU SAY IT'S A DREAM?

THIS IS NO DREAM!

WHEN YOU OVERCOME YOUR OWN WEAKNESS, THE POWER WILL FLOW FROM YOU FREELY.

PLEASE... WE NEED YOUR POWER!

THE AMERICANS ARE RIGHT BEHIND US!

PUT ON YOUR MASKS! I'LL USE PIC-24!

...LOCATED BENEATH THE CONSTRUCTION FOR THE NEW OLYMPIC STADIUM.

I'VE HAD ENOUGH!

LORD AKIRA!

MAIL LORD AKIRA!

YOU SAW IT, TOO.

YOU CAN READ MY THOUGHTS?

IT'S A COMPLETE FAILURE!

ALL OF THIS WILL FADE AWAY!

I REALIZE NOW HE WAS A HERO TO BOTH OF THEM.

...AM HERE!

I...

HA HA HA HA!

AS FAR AWAY AS POSSIBLE.

SPECIAL STUFF! GENETICALLY ENGINEERED!

WHAT'S GOING ON?!

BY THE TIME HE WAKES, IT WILL BE TOO LATE.

HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT AKIRA?!

SOB! SOB!

IT'S AN ILLUSION! ALL OF IT!

AKIRA

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ACCEPT
WHAT YOU
ARE...

...NUMBER
41!!

POOR
LITTLE
TETSUO...

YAMABUTA!

STOP
FOLLOWING
ME EVERY-
WHERE!

WHILE WE
DON'T WANT
TO NEGLECT
ACADEMICS...

...OUR RAIN
SONG IS THE
TEACHING OF
DECENT HUMAN
VALUES.

YOUR
FIRST TIME,
HMM?

DON'T
SWALLOW
THAT
PILL!

HEY
TETSUO!
HEADS
UP!

AND TETSUO
SHIMA WILL
BE YOUR NEW
FRIEND...

I
DON'T
WANNA
BOOO!

HE CRIES AND
CRIES TIL I CAN'T
STAND IT. IT'S NOT AS
THOUGH HE WERE MY
REAL CHILD.

I SAID
I DON'T
TAKE
ORDERS
FROM YOU.

TETSUO!

NO!

DON'T
MAKE ME
GO!

SAY
WHAT?

IT'S A
CUSTOM
JOB...

TO-NIGHT
WE
PARTY!

SHOW
TIME!

FROM HERE
ON WE TAKE
IT AS IT
COMES.

YOU'RE
STILL
JUST A
KID.

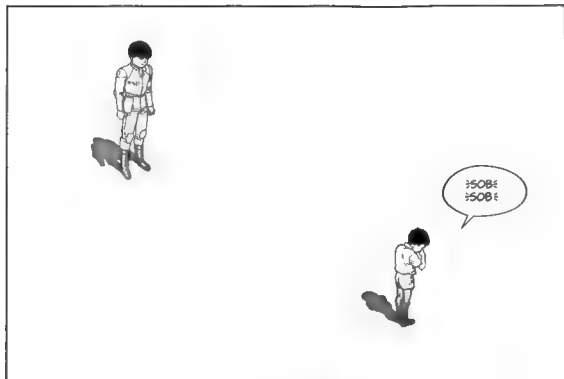
STOP
TREATING ME
LIKE SUCH A
BABY!

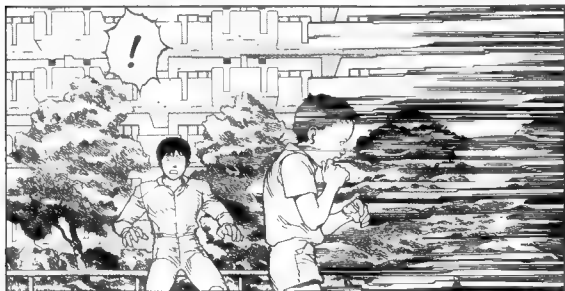
DURING THE PAST
TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS, HE TOOK
SOME KIND OF
ARTIFICIAL
STIMULANT.

WHY WON'T
DADDY COME
AND SEE
ME?

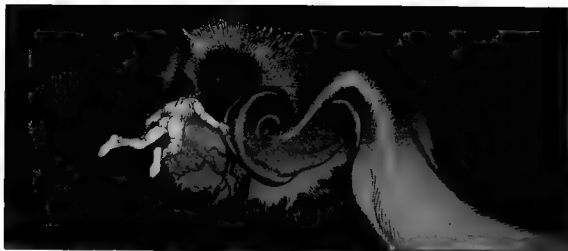
THE
FOOL!

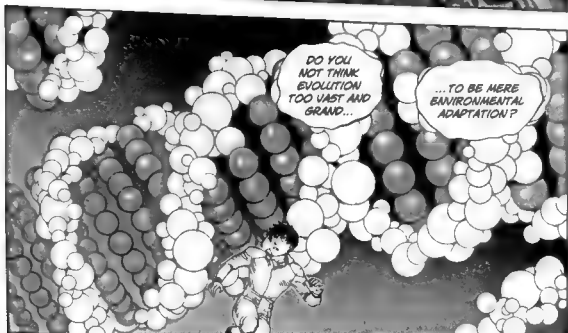
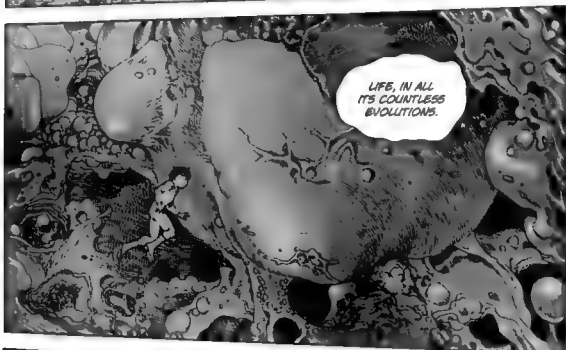
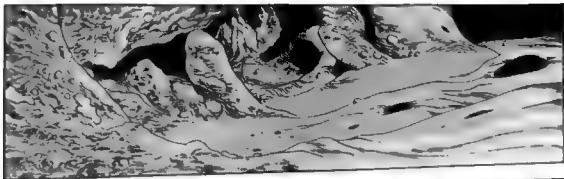
1508
1508





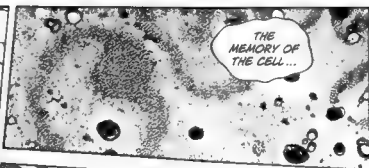




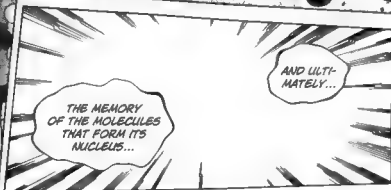




WHAT ARE
YOU TRYING
TO TELL
ME ?!

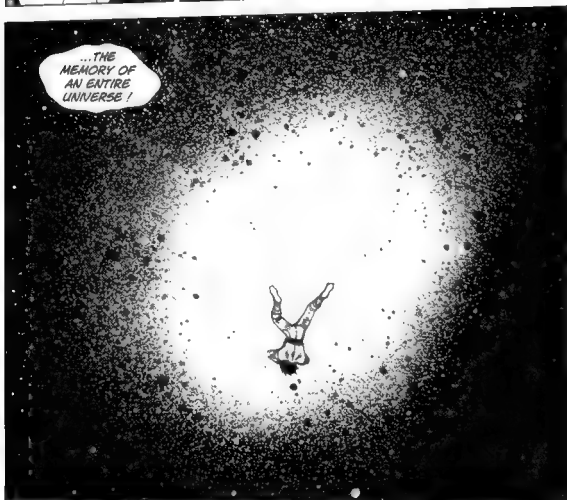


THE
MEMORY OF
THE CELL...

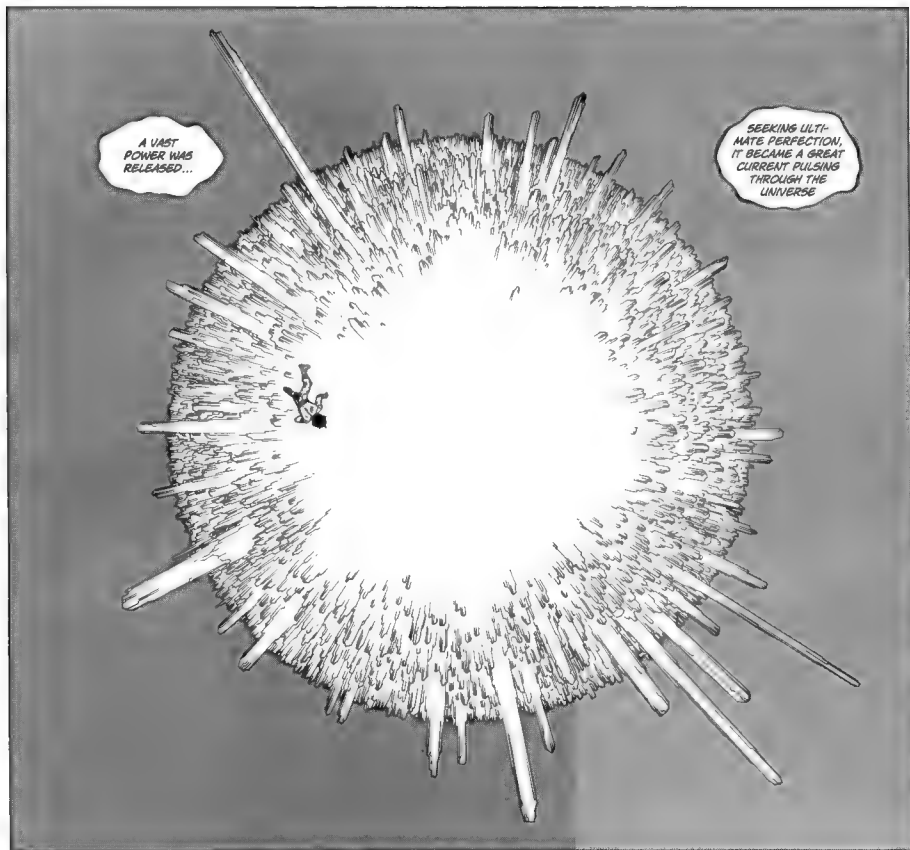


AND ULTI-
MATELY...

THE MEMORY
OF THE MOLECULES
THAT FORM ITS
NUCLEUS...

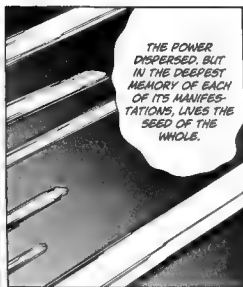


...THE
MEMORY OF
AN ENTIRE
UNIVERSE !



A VAST
POWER WAS
RELEASED...

SEEKING ULTI-
MATE PERFECTION,
IT BECAME A GREAT
CURRENT PULSING
THROUGH THE
UNIVERSE



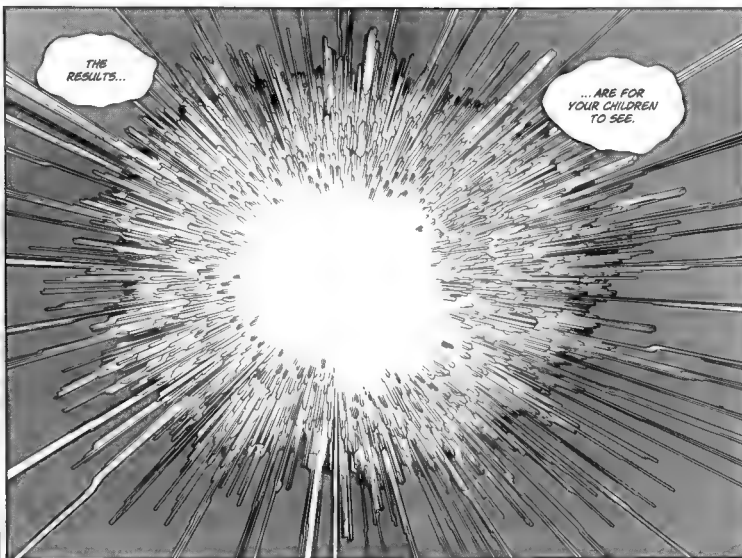
THE POWER
DISPERSED, BUT
IN THE DEEPEST
MEMORY OF EACH
OF ITS MANIFES-
TATIONS, LIVES THE
SEED OF THE
WHOLE.

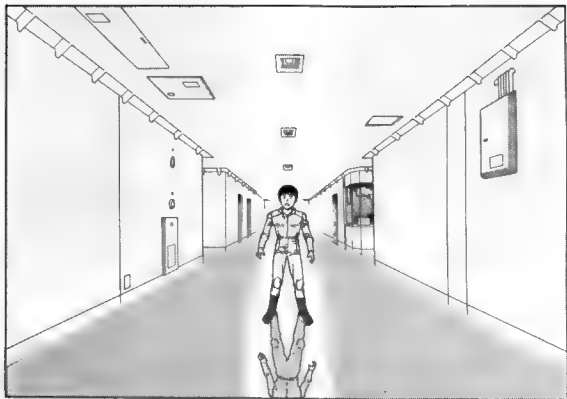


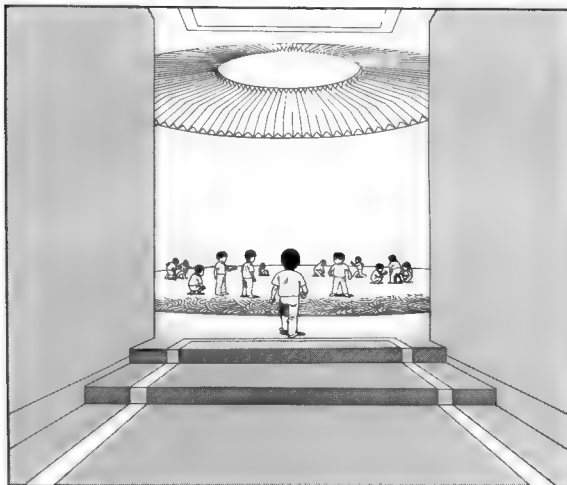
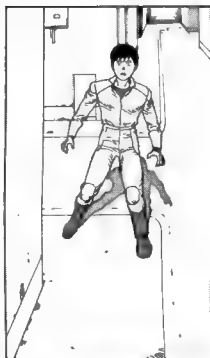
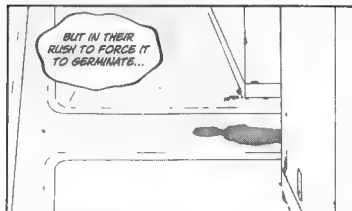
YOU MEAN
THAT TETSUO
AND AKIRA'S
POWER IS
REALLY --

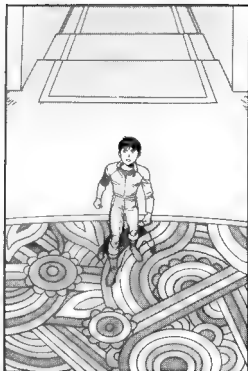


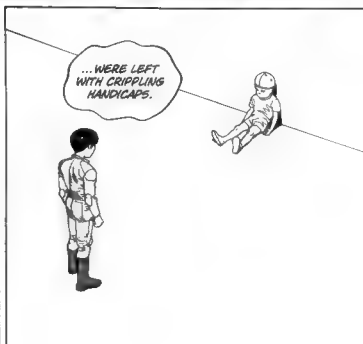
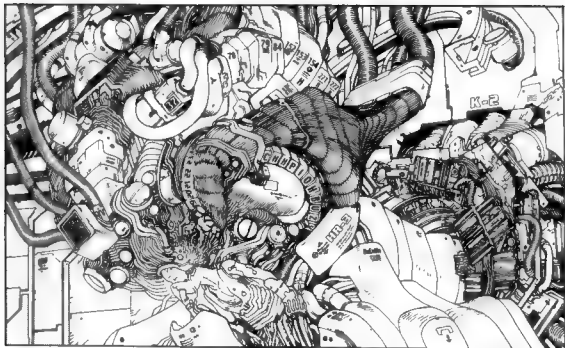
BUT WHY
WOULD THAT
POWER BRING
DESTRUC-
TION?!

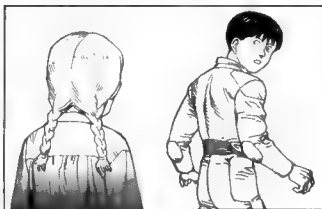








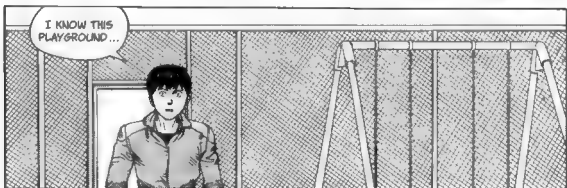
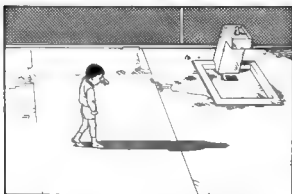
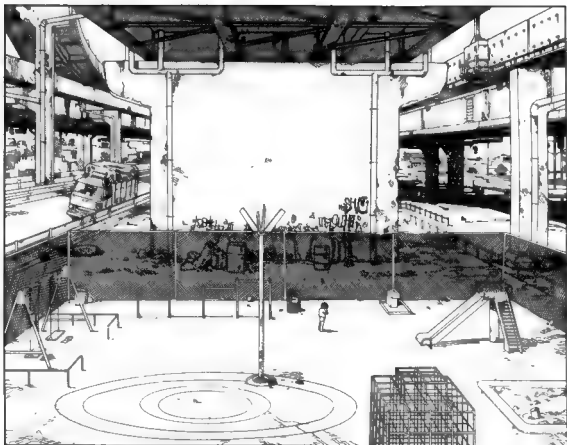


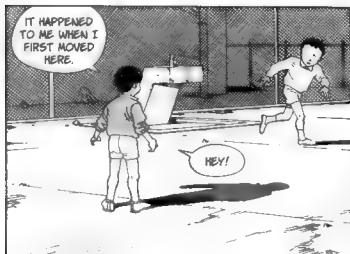
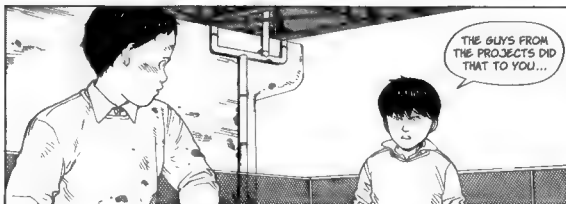
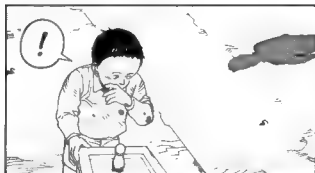










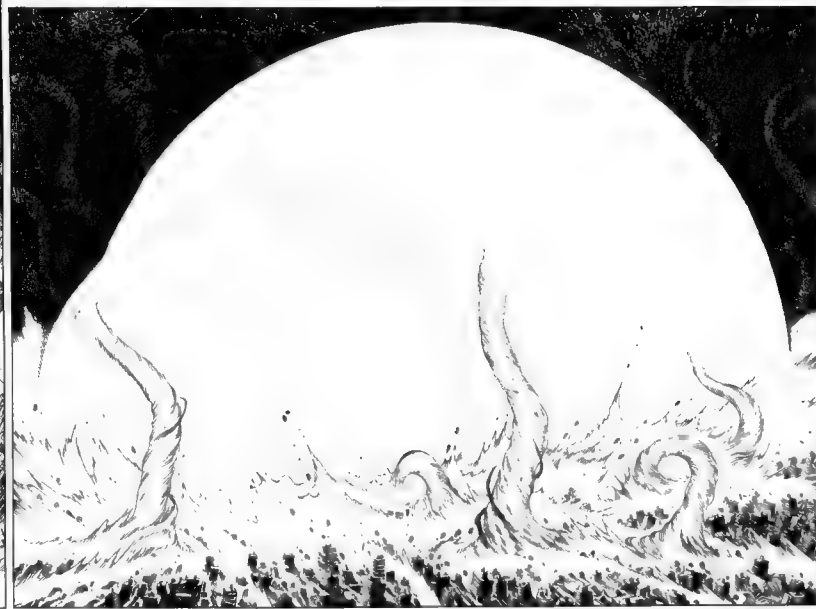


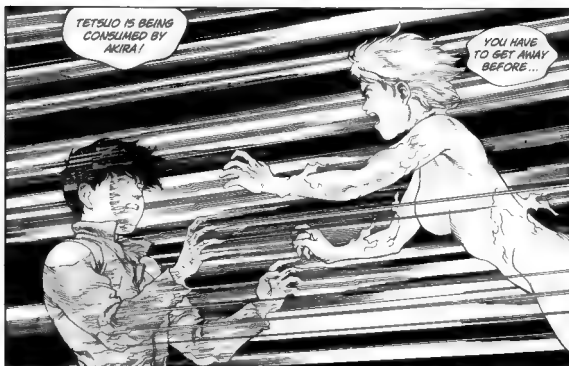


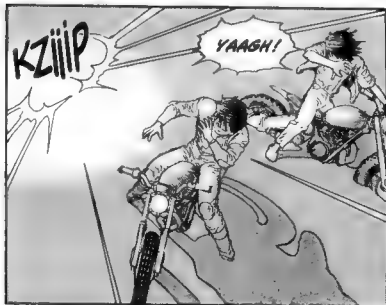


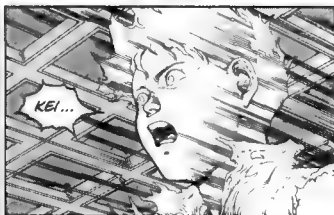


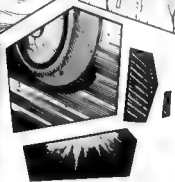
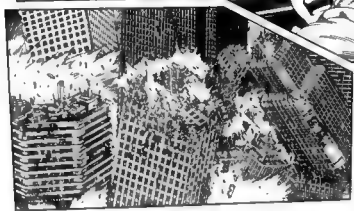
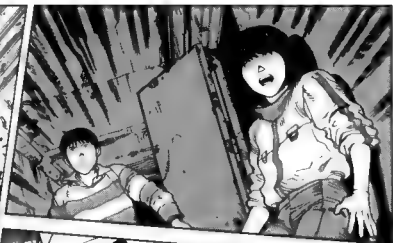


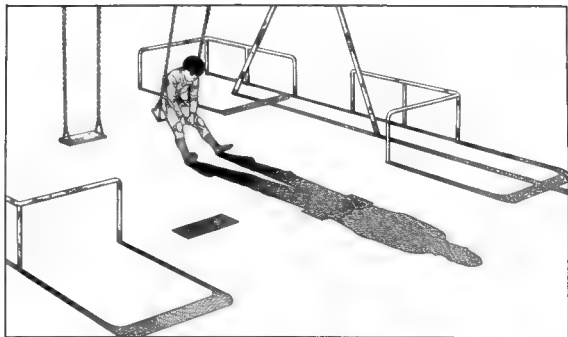


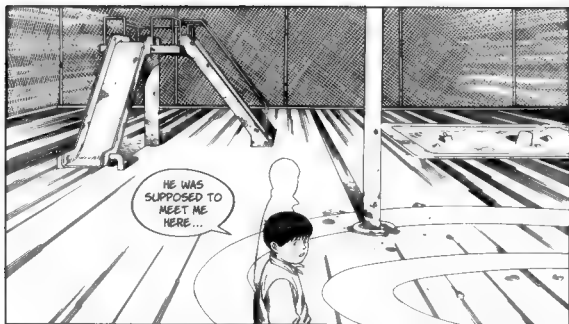




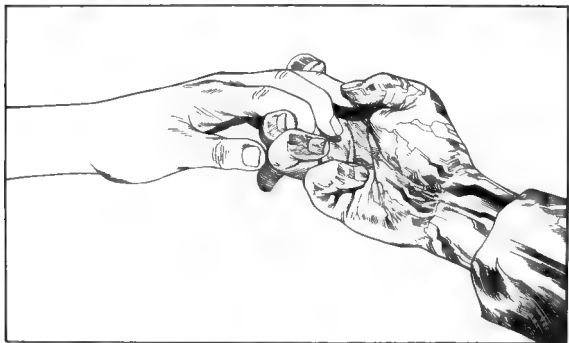




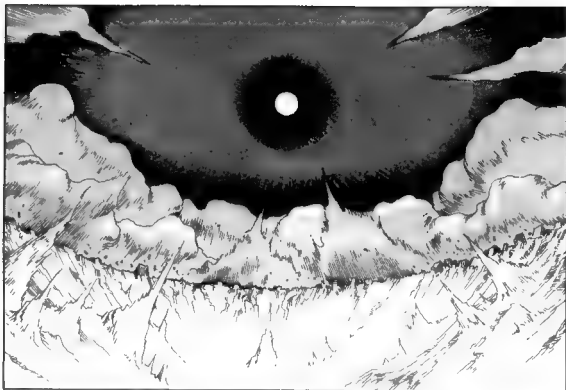




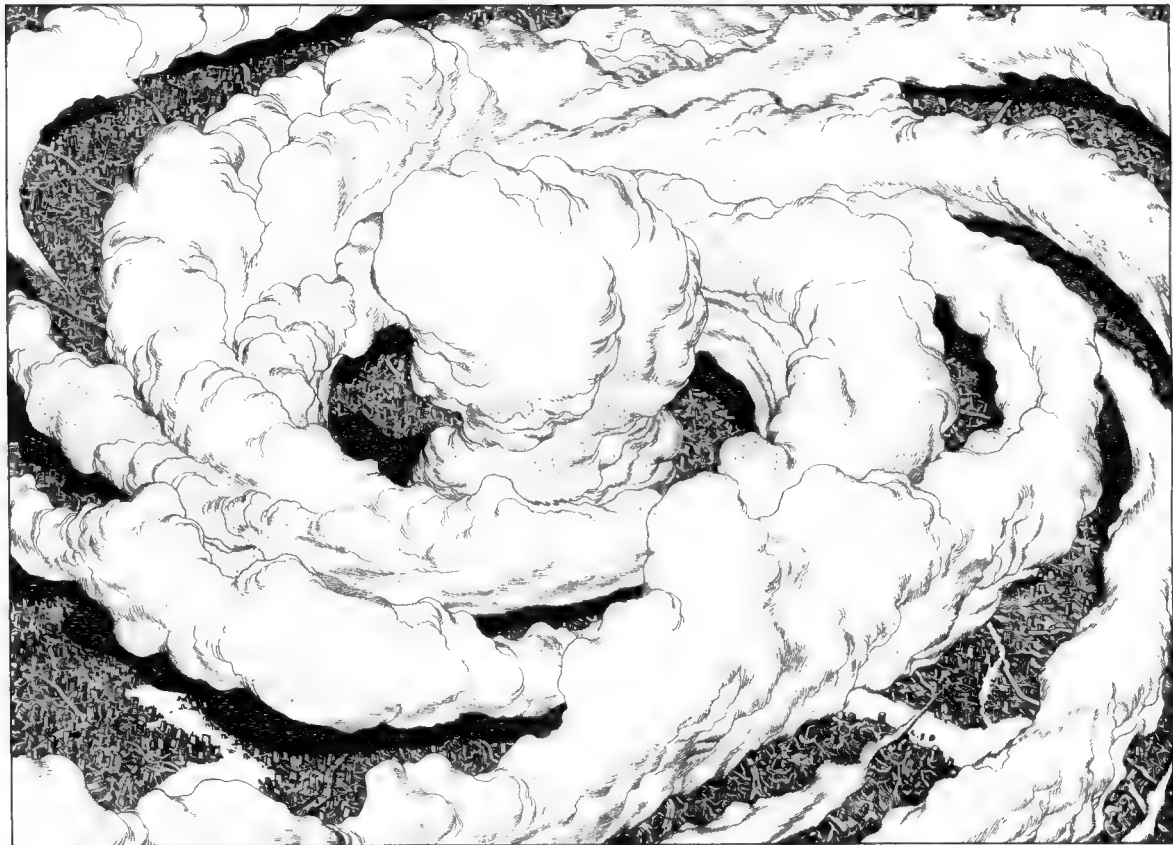


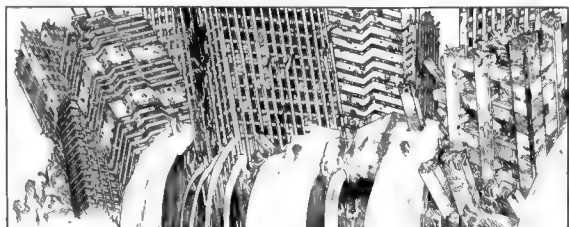
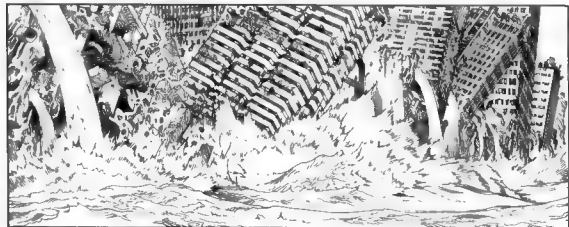


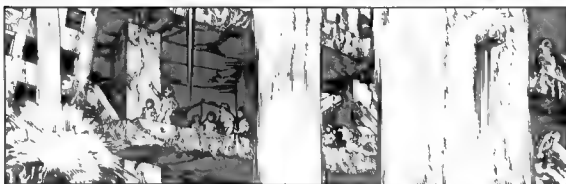
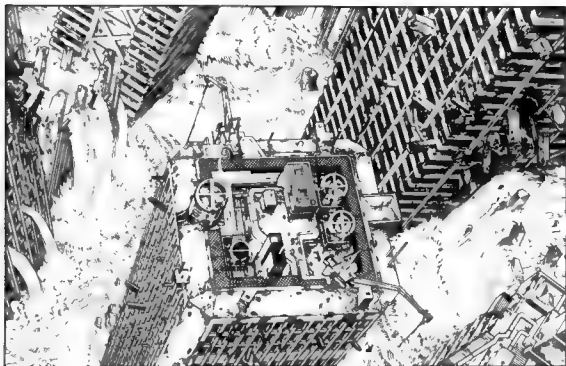


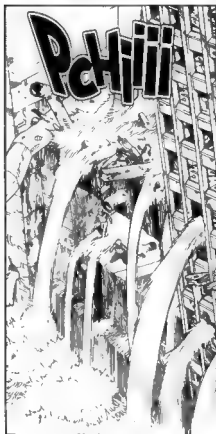


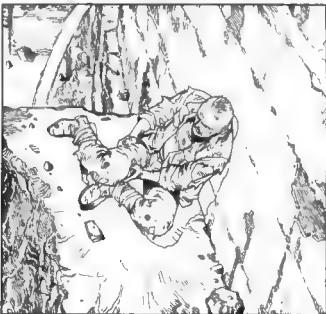


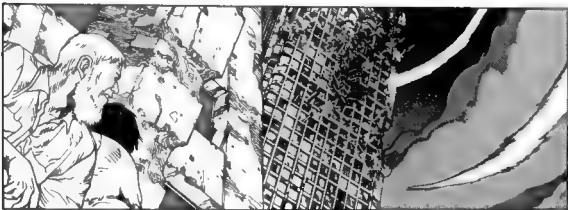
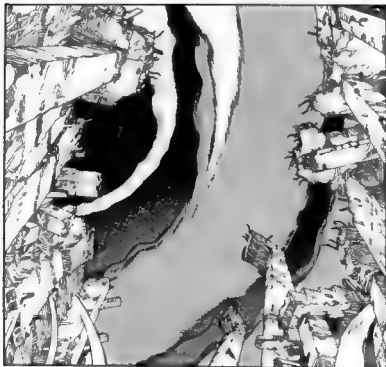


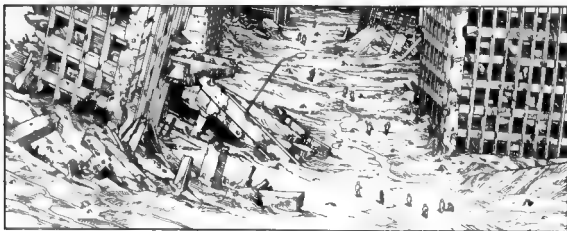
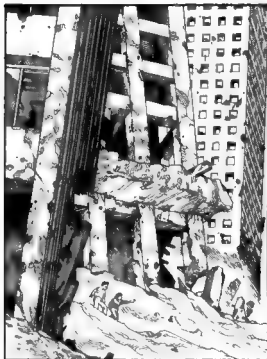


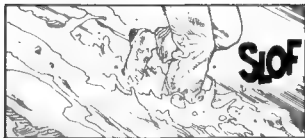










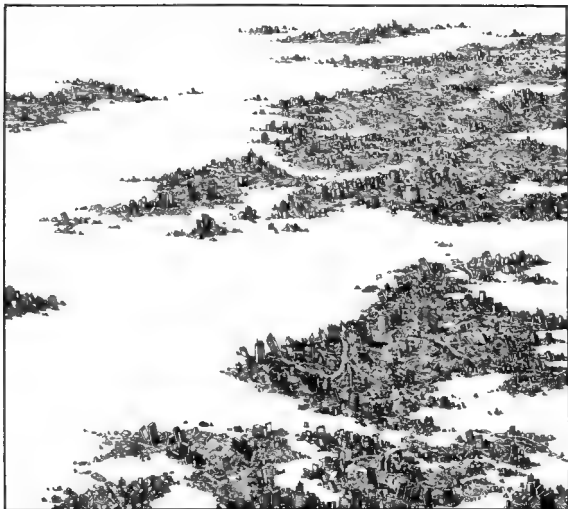


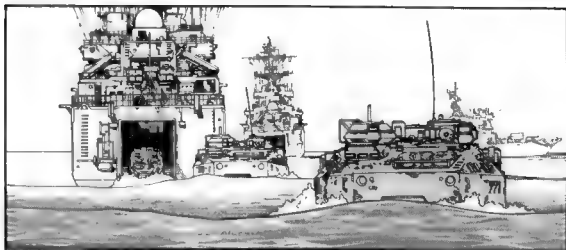


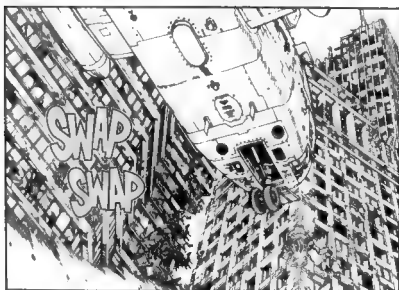
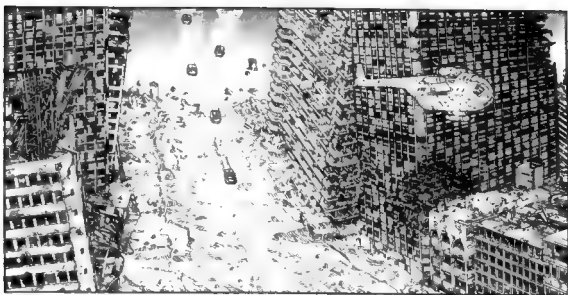
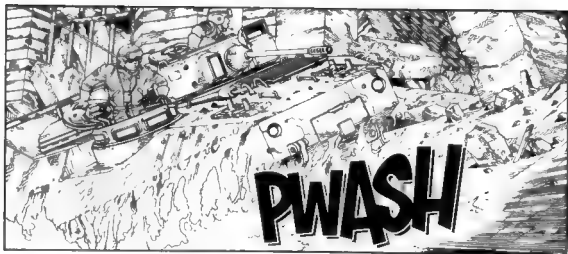


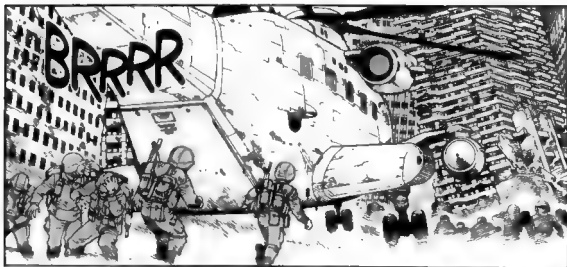


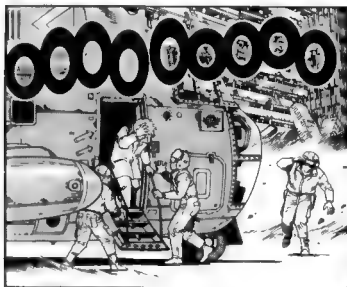


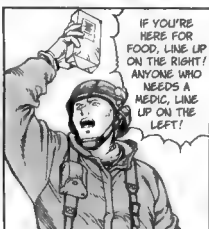
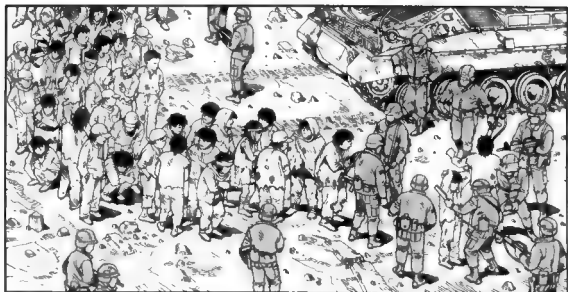




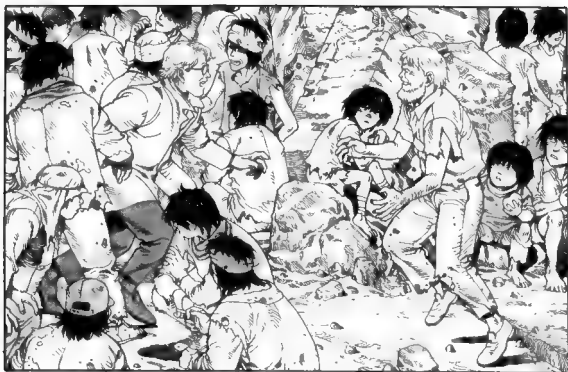


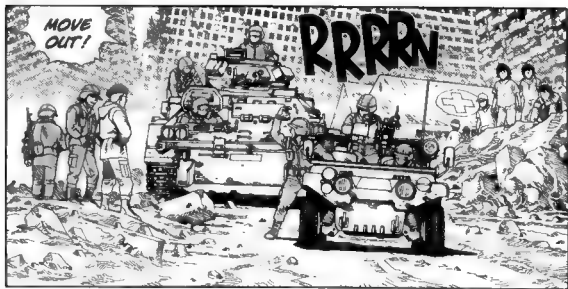


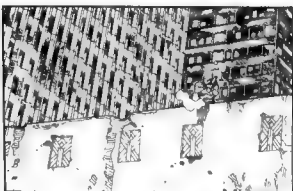
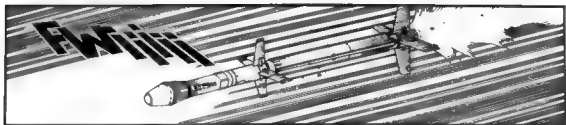


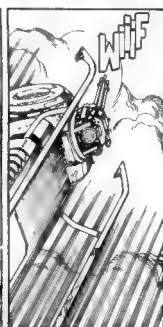
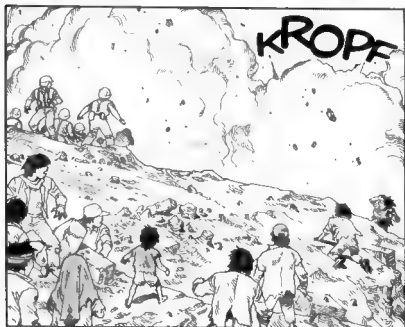


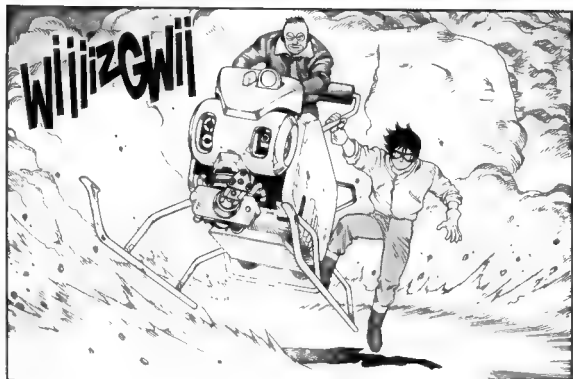


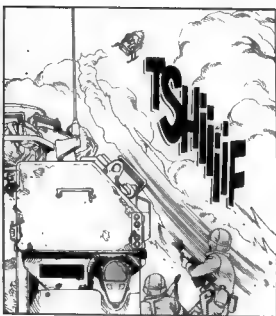


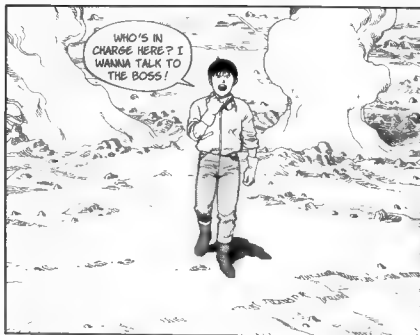






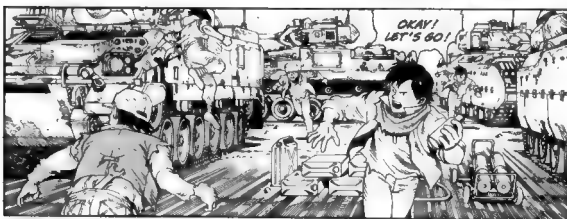
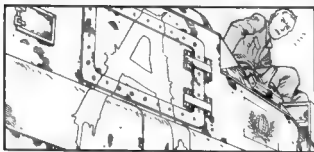




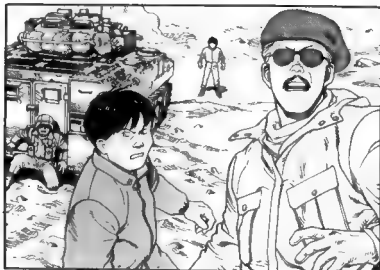


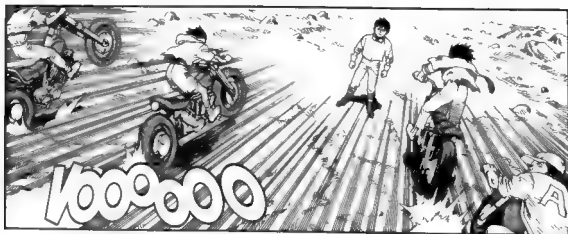








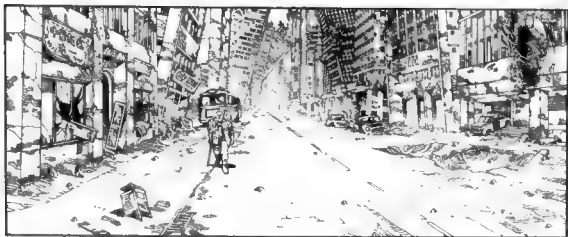
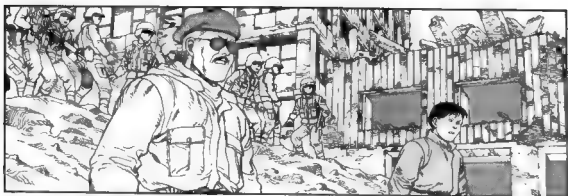






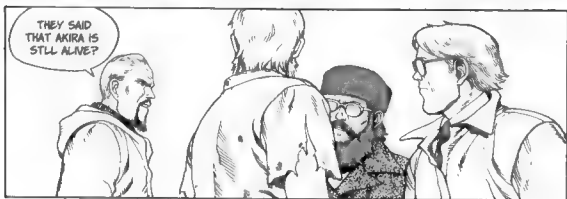
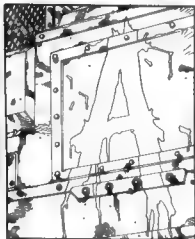
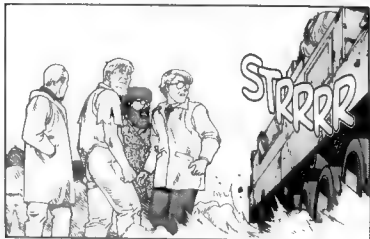
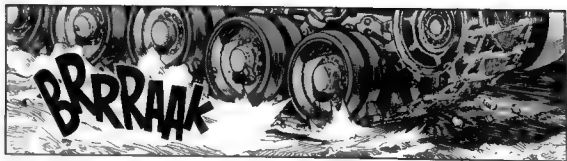




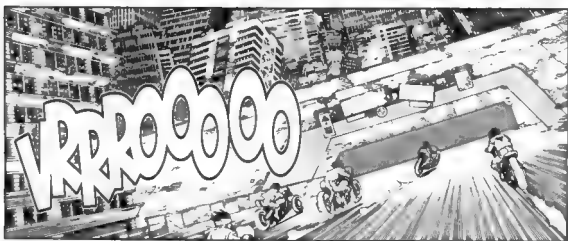




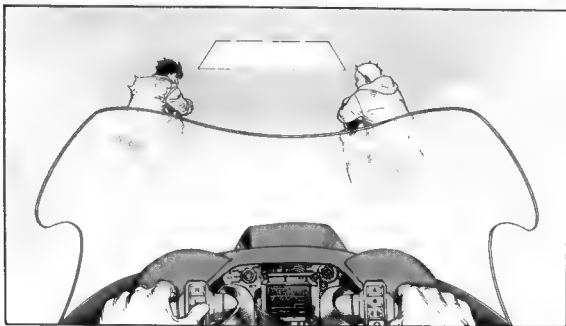


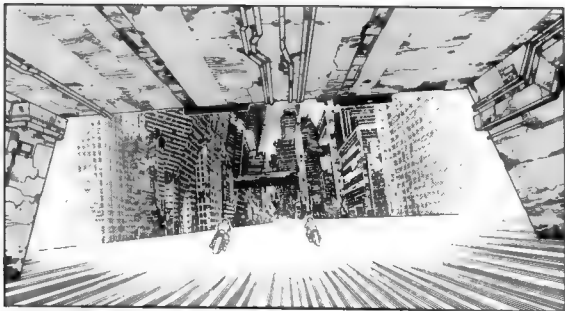










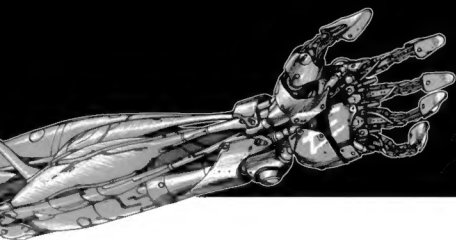






AKIRA

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IN A DEVASTATED 21ST CENTURY

Neo-Tokyo, the armed might of Earth is massed against the godlike powers of two psychic titans, the mute child Akira and the deranged youth Tetsuo. While Akira has unintentionally destroyed the city twice before, Tetsuo has ravaged the surface of the Moon for his sheer amusement, and his madness grows as his abilities expand. But he is gradually losing control of the limitless energies that rage within him, mutating Tetsuo into a horror beyond imagination, and as all forces converge for a final confrontation, the fate of the planet lies in the hands of mere mortals...and the mind of a child.

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